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**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 

LSU, Alabama bring offensive revolution to SEC showdown

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# STARS STRIPES.

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Jermaine Birdow is pictured in the stands at Falcon Stadium on Nov. 2 as his son, Air Force fullback Taven Birdow, and his teammates host Army at Air Force Academy, Colo.

#### Air Force senior relishes having father in stands after prison term

By PAT GRAHAM Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.

— Like many fathers and sons, the Birdows tossed the football around the yard.

They imagined the setting being the backyard on freshly cut grass — not the cracked asphalt inside a prison yard where they were. They tuned out the barbedwire fences and the watchful eyes of the guards.

It was on these days that young Taven Birdow might daydream of playing in college just like his father, who, in those precious moments, was reliving his time as a linebacker for Oklahoma State University in the 1990s.

Jermaine Birdow was no longer No. 33 in your program but No. 463462 in Oklahoma's state prison system — serving a long sentence for a 2001 home invasion.

It was also on these days he might daydream of seeing his son — now a senior fullback at Air Force — play in person for the first time. That happened on Aug. 31 against Colgate, when Jermaine was in the stands as Taven took the field in the number he used to wear.

The moment was even better than he imagined.

Photo gallery of the memorial at stripes.com/go/wallat30



30 years after fall of the Berlin Wall, the world is more splintered and perhaps more dangerous than ever

> By TAMER FAKAHANY Associated Press

onths before the Berlin Wall fell on Nov. 9, 1989, with the Soviet strangle-hold over the Eastern Bloc crumbling, a young political scientist named Francis Fukuyama made a declaration that quickly became famous. It was, he declared, "the end of histow."

But the heralded defeat of Communism didn't usher in a lasting golden age for Western, capitalist-driven liberalism. Far from it.

In the decades since, seismic events, movements and global patterns have shaped the 21st century into a splintered, perhaps more dangerous era than the Cold War.

The 9/11 attacks happened; the Iraq and Syria wars helped produce the bloody emergence of Islamic State and, later, a refugee crisis. The economy tanked in 2008. China became a superpower. Russia resurged. A new populism took root.

All have had a transcendent impact. History, it seemed, didn't "end."

SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 7

Berliners celebrate as East Germans pour through the dismantled Berlin Wall into West Berlin at Potsdamer Platz on Nov. 12, 1989.



SEE SENIOR ON PAGE 2

#### **MILITARY**

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## **Senior:** Father relishes watching son play fullback for Air Force Academy

"To see his last name on the back of his jersey, playing for the United States Air Force for the first time?" said Jermaine, who's attended every game this season, including at Hawaii, following his release last November after more than 17 years in prison. "I was awestruck."

Taven was 3 when his father was jailed for his role in a home invasion in Oklahoma City. Jermaine ended up pleading guilty to charges that included robbery with firearms, pointing a firearm at another, kidnapping for the purposes of extortion and firstdegree burglary. His sentence: 37 years (later

commuted to 20 with the help of his legal team).

As a kid, Taven and his mom, Jamie Rodrigues, would visit his father as often as they could and at whatever prison he happened to be housed.

Rodrigues always made sure Taven's father played a big part of his life. The routine, though, was taxing: School and practice

#### Correction

A Nov. 7 article about the Dragoon Ready exercise should have identified Mai. Andrew Webb as the operations officer for the Army's 2nd Cavalry Regiment's for Taven, work for her, and then long drives for weekend visits

"There were times when crawled into bed and cried," said Rodrigues, who lives in Altus, Okla., and is married to Taven's stepfather. "But how can I ever complain, when I have a child who did as much as he did, accomplished as much as he did and never once complained?"

On the visits, the father and son would sometimes throw the football around (if there was one). Or play hoops (if they were permitted). Or make up obstacle courses (trash cans for hurdles). Or just talk across a table.

They always envisioned they were beyond those walls.

"I was pretty good as far as creating an atmosphere of, 'You're not here in this prison. You're just here with your dad," said Jermaine, who resides in Enid, operates a lawn service and gives motivational speeches at church-es and schools. "It was always the presence of just us that made the time greater." Sometimes, Taven and his mom

would travel three or more hours for a visit only to be turned away because of ever-changing rules or surprise facility lockdowns.

Those times stung. So did goodbyes.

"I remember once when I was 7 or 8 and we had to leave, and I had an anxiety attack," said Taven, a management major who just ap-plied to be a pilot. "He was a loving father and couldn't be there and all those short stints of being



Air Force fullback Taven Birdow, center, is stopped during the second half of an NCAA college football game against Utah State at Air Force Academy, Colo., on Oct. 26. Birdow's father, Jermaine, saw his son play football for the first time when Air Force hosted Army on Saturday.

with him takes a toll. You get to go home and he has to go back to his cell. That's a lot on a child."

Their bond was enhanced through sports. Taven played baseball, wrestled and ran track. Of course, there was football as he helped Altus High School win a 2015 state title.

No bitterness toward dad. Taven attributes that to his mom, who always included his father in decisions. She grew up without a father and wasn't going to let that happen to Taven.

One strict rule: Grades came first. No exceptions. And if Taven got into trouble, his mom made him call his father.

"He did the normal dad role when he could," Taven said. Jermaine weighed in throughout Taven's college recruiting process. He was a standout football player himself in high school, before suiting up for Oklahoma State. He pushed Oklahoma or Oklahoma State. Taven blazed his own path at

Air Force.

There was a tough conversation, though, over Christmas break following his sophomore season. Taven was thinking of stepping away from football. When he told his mom, they drove to Tulsa, where his father was incarcerated, so the three could have a heart-to-heart chat.

"His dad was saying, 'I'm getting out, and I've never seen you play football. I've always wanted to be there for a game,' his mom recalled. "Taven broke down. It's the first time I've ever seen him break down. He said, 'You should've been there in high school.' We both lost it. We realized how much he internalized on a constant basis. We had no idea

because he's the most humble person I've ever known.'

In August, dad got to see him play in person. Taven even had a season-long 41-yard run in that

game against Colgate.

"First time I cried in a while." said Jermaine, 43.

More feel-good moments - traveling to Hawaii to watch Taven. Seeing him rush for a career-high 124 yards against San Jose State. Being there when he eclipsed the 1,000-yard mark for his career at Navy. On the horizon, a bowl game for Air Force

He's proud of the relationship he's forged through prison walls.
"Now, we're here," Jermaine

said last weekend before the Army game, glancing in the direction of the mountains. "You look around and you're like, 'Wow, This is awesome. This is just beautiful.'

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ICHIRO KATAYANAGI

Every Friday in the **European and Pacific** editions of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at www.stripes.com/relo

#### **MILITARY**

# Retired general charged in child porn case

By Rose L. Thayer Stars and Stripes

A retired Air National Guard general was arrested and charged Wednesday with more than a dozen felony counts related to possession of child normography after investigators found thousands of searches on his computer for explicit images, the Pennsylvania

attorney general announced. Retired Brig. Gen. Frank Sullivan's Mechanicsburg, Pa., home was raided last month by special agents from the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General, Homeland Security Investigations and the Hampden Township Police Department. The agents' search of the home revealed Sullivan's desktop and laptop computers were filled with searches of preteen children, which resulted in 15 second-degree felony counts

sexual children and one count of criminal use of a communication facility, according to a news release from the attorney general. In



addition to finding child pornography on the laptop, a computer forensic analysis identified 37 search terms commonly used by people looking for child pornography. Agents with the attorney gen-

eral's office also discovered Sullivan's penchant for viewing the illegal images during an investigation of a file-sharing network, according to the release.

"Gen. Sullivan's alleged actions disgrace his work and besmirch the Pennsylvania National Guard, an organization that has bravely and dutifully come to the aid of Pennsylvanians whenever they have been called," Attorney General Josh Shapiro said in a prepared statement, "I've said it time and time again - nobody is above the law. My office will investigate and prosecute anyone who harms Pennsylvanians, no matter what positions of power they may hold.'

Sullivan, 67, spent 30 years as an engineer officer in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and retired in March 2012, according to his official service record. He last served as the director of the joint staff at the Pennsylvania Joint Force Headquarters. As director, he managed programs and operations for the 100-plus member joint staff and oversaw issues that impact the 19,000-member Pennsylvania National Guard.

He deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan and received a Bronze Star Medal, among others.

Following his military retire-

ment, he served for a time as the executive director of the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission, a program of the state's Department of Community & Economic Development that funds projects

related to the military. In a related case, Bobby Glenn Williams Jr., 32, a tenant of Sullivan's, was charged last month with 14 felony counts of disseminating photos of child sex acts, 11 felony counts of child pornography, and one felony count of criminal use of a communication facility, according to the attorney general's release

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### Bergdahl trial to be reevaluated and Trump, McCain influence considered

By Corey Dickstein Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - The U.S. military's top appellate court will consider whether former Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl received a fair trial in 2017 after he was repeatedly ridiculed as a traitor by President Donald Trump.
The Court of Appeals for the

Armed Forces on Monday granted Bergdahl's petition to review the case of the ex-soldier who spent five years in Taliban captivity after walking off his post in Afghanistan's Paktika province in 2009. A U.S. court-martial convicted Bergdahl of abandoning his post and endangering troops.

The five-judge panel announced it would examine Bergdahl's contention that his case was tainted before his court-martial by apparent unlawful command influence from scores of comments levied at him by Trump as a presidential candidate and statements by the late Sen. John McCain that called for Bergdahl to be punished.

The court's decision to review the case comes about two years after Bergdahl pleaded guilty in late October 2017 to the charges and he was sentenced to a reduction in rank to E-1 private, the forfeiture of about \$10,000 in pay and a dishonorable discharge after a weeklong trial. The decision by the judge, now-retired Army Col. Jeffery R. Nance, to spare Bergdahl prison time was largely interpreted as a mitigant to Trump's campaign trail rhetoric, though Nance never explained his sentencing decision publicly.

Trump almost immediately lamented Nance's decision via Twitter, calling Bergdahl's lack of prison time a "complete and total disgrace to our country and to our military.'

Bergdahl's civilian attorney, Eugene Fidell, has long sought the dismissal of all the charges and later the convictions, arguing Trump's comments precluded his ability to receive a fair trial because members of the military including Nance - fall under the president's command.

In July, the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals denied a Bergdahl petition to dismiss his convictions. However, one member of the three-judge panel dissented, writing he supported dismissing Bergdahl's dishonorable discharge, citing "the taint of post-trial unlawful command influence" due to Trump's tweet just after sentencing.

The CAAF did not provide a hearing date for Bergdahl's appeals petition in a short announcement of its decision to consider his case. Lawyers for Bergdahl will have at least 30 days to submit their arguments for dismissal of the charges and convictions. Government lawyers also will have at least 30 days to respond.

At the conclusion of the sentencing trial following Bergdahl's guilty plea, prosecutors sought a 14-year prison term and appeared stunned by Nance's sentence. But the judge had hinted earlier in the proceedings that he would consider Trump's comments as mitigating evidence, calling them "conclusory, condemning and disparaging."

Earlier in court proceedings during Bergdahl's case, Nance called McCain's threats to host Senate hearings if Bergdahl was not punished "ill-advised," but the judge said they did not amount to unlawful command influence.

Bergdahl, who is now 33, admitted in court that he left Observation Post Mest in eastern Afghanistan on June 30, 2009, in an attempt to walk to a larger base where he said he wanted to alert military brass of problems that he perceived within



Bowe Bergdahl, left, leaves the Fort Bragg courtroom facility following sentencing at Fort Bragg, N.C., on Nov. 3, 2017. The military's top court will review whether Berghal's conviction was fair after Trump and late Sen. John McCain made comments.

his chain of command. Instead, he was captured by Taliban insurgents within hours of leaving his post and eventually smuggled into Pakistan where he was held and tortured by Taliban-linked Haggani network terrorists for five years.

In 2014, he was freed in a controversial prisoner swap for five former Taliban commanders who had been held at the U.S. Detention Center at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba since 2001. The exchange, conducted by former President Barack Obama's administration without the approval of Congress, immediately drew the ire of congressional Republicans.

During his high-profile courtmartial at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, Bergdahl apologized for his decision to leave his fellow soldiers, calling his decision naive and admitting it placed American troops unnecessarily in harm's way Evidence in court showed at least three service members were severely wounded during operations to recover Bergdahl in the weeks after he disappeared.

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#### Esper appeals to Trump to allow military cases to proceed unfettered

By Missy Ryan AND JOSH DAWSEY The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Mark Esper appealed to President Donald Trump this week to allow the military justice system to proceed unfettered in a number of high-profile cases, officials said, as concern intensifies among Pentagon leaders that presidential intervention could damage military discipline and

Speaking to reporters at the Pentagon, Esper said he had a "robust discussion" with Trump on Tuesday about the cases of three current or former service members charged with war crimes or other wrongdoing. Earlier in the week, Fox News reported that the president was likely to issue pardons or take other actions to assist them.

"I offered, as I do in all matters. the facts, the options, my advice, the recommendations, and we'll see how things play out," Esper

Officials said the meeting with Trump came a day after Esper convened military service leaders to discuss the cases, which include that of a Navy SEAL acquitted of killing an Islamic State prisoner but convicted on lesser A defense official, who like

others spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations, said that Pentagon leaders were "acutely" concerned that action by Trump circumventing the military justice system would have "second and third order effects on good order and discipline.'

Earlier this year, the president pardoned a former Army lieutenant serving time for killing an Iraqi prisoner in 2008. He has also made comments about ongoing cases that critics have said could constitute undue command influence, possibly leading to the dismissal of cases by military

Any further intervention, the

defense official said, also could undermine the authority of commanders who have overseen those cases, which most military leaders see as clear instances in which service members had to be prosecuted.

The issue constitutes a potential point of friction between Trump and the Pentagon at a time when defense leaders are scrambling to publicly align themselves with the president's evolving policy on Syria, which some military officials have privately criticized.

第3種郵便物設可

# N. Korea blasts planned **US-S.** Korean exercises

By KIM GAMEL Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea - North Korea criticized U.S.-South Korean plans to hold joint air exercises next month, warning that hopes for dialogue are "on the verge of extinction.

The Pentagon confirmed this week that the allies will hold a combined air exercise but would not call it Vigilant Ace, which was canceled last year to facilitate nuclear talks with the North.

The communist state hates all joint military exercises conducted by Seoul and Washington on the peninsula because it considers them rehearsals for an invasion.

Kwon Jong Gun, described as a roving ambassador, pointed out that President Donald Trump had promised to end the drills following his first summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last

"The U.S. reckless military frenzy is an extremely provocative and dangerous act of throwing a wet blanket over the spark of the [North Korean]-U.S. dialogue on the verge of extinction," the diplomat was quoted as saying by the state-run Korean Central News Agency. He also dismissed the name

change and plans to scale back

the scope of the exercise.

"No one will believe that the changed war exercises will change their aggression nature," Kwon said in the statement posted Wednesday.

Seoul and Washington canceled Vigilant Ace and several other drills last year but have continued to conduct joint tactical training while keeping it low profile.

"There are no plans to skip upcoming combined exercises. Army Lt. Col. Dave Eastburn, a Pentagon spokesman, said Tuesday in Washington, giving it a generic name. "We are proceeding with the Combined Flying Training Event as planned.

He didn't give more details. South Korean officials told the Yonhap News Agency the drills will be conducted at a smaller scale than in previous years.

In 2017, as tensions with North Korea were high, the allies mobilized about 230 aircraft, including F-22 Raptors, F-35 Lightning IIs, F-16 Fighting Falcons, F-15 Eagles and F/A-18 Hornet fighter jets for the Americans and F-15K Slam Eagles and F-4 Phantom IIs for the South Koreans.

Seoul and Washington insist the exercises are aimed at ensuring they can operate together in joint missions, but they always infuriate the North, which has frequently responded with missile tests or fiery propaganda.

Diplomatic efforts to persuade the North to give up its nuclear weapons have stalled as subsequent summits and working-level talks have failed to bridge the gap between Pyongyang's demands for sanctions relief and other rewards for steps already taken and Washington's insistence on more extensive disarmament measures

Kim Jong Gun said the plan to conduct the air drills "amounts to a declaration of confrontation' and suggested that the North may consider resuming long-range missile and nuclear tests.

North Korea had largely

stopped its saber rattling last year amid a flurry of diplomatic efforts with the United States, but the warnings have resumed as it grows increasingly frustrated over the stalemate.

The North, which has given the U.S. an end-of-year deadline to come up with a more flexible approach, also has conducted several short-range weapons tests this Trump has largely dismissed

those as insignificant despite experts warning they demonstrate advances in capabilities.

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Retail Services Specialist Seaman Epifania Hisatake operates the ship's store aboard the destroyer USS McCampbell.

#### New rating for some sailors: 'retail services specialist'

By Carlos M. Vazquez II Stars and Stripes

There's a new moniker for sailors charged with jobs like managing a ship's store, cutting hair or doing laundry aboard Navy vessels: retail services specialists.

The change from the old rating ship's serviceman - took effect Oct. 1 and was made as part of a service-wide effort to align Navy jobs with their counterparts in the civilian world, according to a statement from Naval Personnel Command. The revision affects only the

rating's name itself and will not impact advancement exams, selection boards or career paths, the message said. Sailors' uniforms will keep the same rating badges a crossed key and quill. Senior Chief Petty Officer Pablo

Ayala, a retail services specialist at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, said most sailors in his field were often faced with clearing up confusion when civilians asked about the duties of a ship's serviceman.

"We always have to follow that up with a brief description of what we do," he said in a separate Navy statement. "Retail services specialist will give a better understanding from a non-military perspective of what we do every day to support the fleet."

The change is part of the Navy's "Sailor 2025" initiative, which seeks to modernize how the service recruits, promotes and delivers information to sailors.

The retail services specialist rating took root in 1885, when the tailor rating was established. That was changed to ship's serviceman in 1943 to include other jobs like cobbler barber and laundryman

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## Bill would protect troops' kin from deportation

By Caitlin M. Kenney Stars and Strines

WASHINGTON - A Senate bill introduced Wednesday protects an immigration program that prevents the deportation of undocumented relatives of service members, a response to reports that a number of military families would be permitted to use the program to stay in the United States.

Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., introduced the Military Family Parole in Place Act in an attempt to ensure the option stays available for many military families. Our troops serving overseas should be fo-

cused on doing their jobs not worrying about whether their family members will be deported," Duckworth said in a prepared statement. Ending these deportation protections would be a cruel, inhumane and a direct threat to our military readiness, which is why I'm introducing this legislation that would support our men and women in combat by protecting their families from deportation.'

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services offers military families what they call a "Parole in Place" option that gives a spouse, widower, parent or child of a service member or a veteran who did not receive a dishonorable discharge the ability to stay in the country in one-year increments on a case-by-case

It only applies to people who have entered the country illegally, not if they overstayed a visa, according to USCIS.

The parole option is meant to protect military families from the threat of deportation, and it allows eligible people who receive the parole option to apply for a work permit and apply for permanent residence in the United States, according to USCIS.

People who get the parole option can receive permanent residency or at least an interview for permanent residency within the year, according to Margaret Stock, an immigration attorney and retired lieutenant colonel from the Army Reserve.

The parole in place option for military families has been a formal policy since 2007 and has helped thousands of people, according to Stock. Duckworth's statement did not say how many people this bill would affect.

In June, NPR reported immigration attorneys were being told that a change in the option would make it so paroles would be granted in rare cases. An internal memorandum at the time between the Defense Department and Department of Homeland Security mentioned a plan to eliminate the option, according to Stock.

"Supposedly it was going to be eliminated in July, but there was a big uproar about it because it will definitely hurt the military," she

The policy change has still not gone into effect and parole applications that Stock has filed for clients are still being approved, she

Homeland Security will still have discretionary authority to deny the parole option, however the bill requires the secretaries of the departments of defense and veterans affairs must also approve the denial, according to the statement.

The approved denials would be required to be posted online by the agencies with a detailed justification for each one, but without including personally identifiable information.

"I definitely want to create more checks and balances and oversight and transparency in the process, but I also want to stop DHS from on their own, unilaterally starting to deport family members of servicemen and servicewomen," Duckworth said.

The Military Officers Association of America, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, co-signed a letter in July with other veteran and legal organizations to the leadership of the Defense Department, Homeland Security and USCIS to request that they keep Parole in Place for military families. MOAA is endorsing Duckworth's bill.

"Due to current threats to diminish Parole in Place for military families, we are encouraged to see this legislation introduced to include the Department of Defense in the decision process and ensure this policy stays in place as it is vital to military readiness," retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, the CEO and president of MOAA, said in the prenared statement

"Reducing military family separations, removing added stress and distraction from service members, and caring for our nation's veterans and their families are all tenants MOAA supports.'

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#### WAR/MILITARY

# Al-Baghdadi inner circle trying to enter Turkey

Associated Pres

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Thursday that members of the late Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's "inner circle" are trying to enter Turkey from Syria.

Erdogan also said the number of people with family ties to al-Baghdadi who have been caught by Turkey "is close to reaching double digits."

The Turkish leader's comments were his second effort in as many days to publicize his country's push to catch ISIS members who were close to al-Baghdadi. Turkey is facing criticism that its recent military offensive to drive Syrian Kurdish fighters from northeast Syria would allow for an ISIS resurgence.

"All of al-Baghdadi's inner circle is mostly targeting our country and these people are looking for ways to settle in our country or to come to our country," Erdogan told reporters.

Erdogan and Turkish officials revealed Wednesday that Turkish police detained one of al-Baghdadi's wives and a daughter last year.

A Turkish official told The Associated Press that they were among a group of 11 ISIS suspects detained in a raid in southern Turkey on June 2, 2018. Police identified the wife as Asma Fawzi Muhammad al-Qubaysi. The official said she was the first wife of al-Baghdadi, who is known to have four wives. A subsequent DNA test confirmed that a suspect who identified herself as Leila Jabeer was al-Baghdadi's daughter, the official said.

This week, Turkish authorities said they captured al-Baghdadi's elder sister, Rasmiya Awad, her husband, daughter-in-law and five children in the town of Azaz, in Aleppo province in northwest-ern Syria. The region is administered by Turkey following a previous military incursion that was launched in 2016.

Erdogan said that the suspects were being kept in detention centers in Turkey while the Turkish Justice Ministry would decide how to handle their cases.

Al-Baghdadi blew himself up during an Oct. 26 raid by U.S. special operations forces on his heavily fortified safe house in the Syrian province of Idilb. The raid was a major blow to his extremist group, which has lost territories it held in Syria and Iraq in a series of military defeats by the U.S-led coalition and Syrian and Iraqi allies.

Also Thursday, Erdogan said attacks continued in northeast Syria by Kurdish forces targeting either Turkish troops or their Syrian opposition allies. That's despite two separate truces that were brokered by Russian and the U.S. last month, which halted Turkey's military offensive.

At least 11 Syrian opposition fighters were killed in an attack on Thursday, Erdogan said, without specifying where or how the attack had occurred.

The Turkish leader said Wednesday that a total of 144 Syrian opposition fighters and 10 Turkish soldiers had been killed during Turkey's incursion into northeast Syria, which began on Oct. 9 and has since displaced around 200,000 people.

# 1.6% cost of living adjustment slated for retirees, survivors

By Corey Dickstein Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Military retrieves and eligible survivors will receive a 1.6% boost in their monthly pay beginning in January based on the Pentagon's annual cost of living adjustment, the Defense Department announced Wednesday.

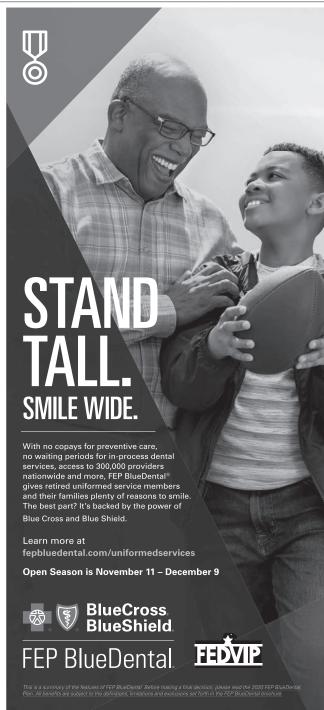
The increased pay will be doled out to most military retirees, survivors of service members who died on active or inactive duty and survivors of retirees who participated in the Survivor Benefit Plan, which pays the family of someone who opted for monthly annutities following the death of an eligible military retiree. The 2020 adjustment is less than last year's 2.8% increase, but it is comparable to adjustments in other recent years.

The Pentagon said the annual boosts are based on inflation numbers during the previous year as determined by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, a monthly measure of average changes to prices for goods and services across the nation.

A service member who retired under the Military Retirement Reform Act, which is commonly known as REDUX, will receive an 0.6% increase. A service member who retired in 2019 will receive a slightly different adjustment, according to a Pentagon statement.

Service members who retired in 2019 and joined the military before 1980 will see a 1.6% boost as will most others, according to Pentagon documents. For service members who joined the military after 1980, most of them will still see the 1.6% boost, but individuals who retired between July 1 and Sept. 30 will receive only a 0.2% increase and those who retired after Oct. I will not receive a cost of living adjustment in 2020, according to the documents.

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#### **EUROPE**

# **Pompeo visits cavalry troops in Germany**

By Martin Egnash AND Karin Zeitvogel Stars and Strings

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas on Thursday thanked the United States and a former U.S. tank commander for their commitment to Germany during the Cold War.

The former armor officer is now U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who is on a two-day trip to Germany to mark 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Maas said the United States played a critical role in lifting the Iron Curtain that divided Europe for decades after World War II, and American soldiers helped Germany to become one nation again.

"At a time when shots were still being fired at the border, American soldiers, like you, stood on the western side and defended freedom," Maas told Pompeo.

"Without America's leadership, there would not have been German reunification," he said.

"That's still valid today ... and we thank you for our freedom and reunification."

Pompeo and Maas discussed during a meeting in Leipzig's historic town hall security issues in Europe and further east in Ukraine, and the alliance's "differences" with Turkey over its recent invasion of northern Syria, they told reporters.

"Ankara continues to be a central part-

ner in NATO, and the dialogue with Ankara ought to be pursued," Maas said.

Pompeo hailed NATO as a "critical strategic partnership" after holding talks with Maas.

"NATO remains an important, critical — perhaps historically one of the most critical strategic partnerships in all of recorded history," Pompeo said during a joint news conference with Maas in the eastern city of Leipzig.

"It's that NATO alliance that is so central,



HOTOS BY JENS MEYER/AP

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo talks to U.S. soldiers based in Grafenwoehr, Germany, on Thursday.

so important, and it's why it's an absolute imperative that every country participate and join in and contribute appropriately to achieving that shared security mission," he said, praising a pledge made by Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer that Germany will by 2031 meet NATO's target for member states to spend 2% of economic output on defense.

Pompeo's visit to Germany comes as the country celebrates the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. He kicked off the trip with a visit to the U.S. Army Garrison Bayaria, where he served as a tank commander shortly after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1986.

When he was a soldier in Germany, Pompeo served with the Army's 2nd Cavalry Regiment, which is still based in the Bavaria garrison.

On Thursday, before meeting with Maas, Pompeo visited the border area between what used to be East and West Germany, where he patrolled as a young soldier.

"It was a bit of a walk down memory lane, memory 'Strasse', for me," Pompeo said. "I saw a piece of history that I was a tiny part of in the 1980s."



Leipzig has been called the birthplace of protests in East Germany that led to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

One of the demonstrators from 30 years ago, civil rights activist Uwe Schwabe, was supposed to meet with Pompeo during the few hours he spent in the city, but pulled

"Current U.S. foreign policy runs contrary to the goals for which the demonstrators took to the streets in 1989," Schwabe was quoted as saying by local media.

The secretary of state was due to travel Thursday from Leipzig to the city of Halle, where two people were killed in what he called a "vicious anti-Semitic attack" on a synagogue last month.

"It's a reminder of how much work needs to be done, and the vigils and fight for religious freedom remain an imperative for our two countries," Pompeo said.

On Friday, Pompeo is expected to meet in Berlin with Chancellor Angela Merkel, Kramp-Karrenbauer and other officials, and will deliver a speech highlighting the U.S. role in helping eastern and central Europe "throw off the yoke of communism," the State Department said.

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## Germany will meet NATO defense spending target by 2031

By John Vandiver Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Germany will hit NATO defense spending targets by 2031, seven years after the goal set by the alliance for members to spend at least 2% of economic output on their militaries, Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer said Thursday.

The pledge was the firmest yet by Berlin that it will satisfy an agreement on NATO security burden sharing, which Germany

has been under intense pressure from the Trump administration to do.

President Donald Trump has often criticized Germany for its defense spending or lack of it — but Kramp-Karrenbauer stressed that outside pressure had nothing to do with the pledge to hit the 2% spending target.

Germany will spend more "not because others demand it but because it's in our own security interest," Kramp-Karrenbauer said Thursday on Twitter.

Germany's defense expenditures are

currently at about 1.3% and will reach 1.5% by 2024, the year all members are supposed to be spending 2% on defense, Kramp-Karrenbauer said.

But given political discord in Berlin over the need to increase defense spending, Kramp-Karrenbauer could face obstacles in her push for higher military expenditures.

Kramp-Karrenbauer made her comments just ahead of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which is being marked in events around Germany. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will commemorate the historic occasion in Berlin on Friday as part of a two-day trip to Germany. Pompeo will also hold talks with officials, including Chancellor Angela Merkel and Kramp-Karrenbauer, while in the German capital.

Defense spending is likely to be on the agenda during those talks and again later this month when Pompeo heads to Brussels for a meeting of NATO foreign ministers.

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#### French leader laments NATO's 'brain death' due to US absence

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — French President Emmanuel Macron claimed that a lack of U.S. leadership is causing the "brain death" of the NATO military alliance, insisting in an interview published Thurnday that the European Union must step up and start acting as a strategic world power.

ing as a strategic world power.

"What we are currently experiencing is the brain death of NATO," Macron told The Economist magazine. He said the United States under President Donald Trump appears to be "turning its back on us," notably by pulling troops out of northeast Syria without notice.

Trump surprised his NATO partners with last month's troop withdrawal. NATO plays no role in Syria, apart from helping the coalition fighting Islamic State. But the move was seen by Turkey, an-

other NATO ally, as a green light to invade the region.

Trump also wrong-footed the allies by announcing a troop drawdown in Afghanistan and then declaring that peace talks with the Taliban were cancelled after a bomb attack killed a U.S. soldier. NATO has played a major security role in the country since 2003, but its future there is now unclear.

Beyond that, the U.S. leader publicly berated other leaders at a May 2017 summit for failing to boost their military budgets. Trump's preoccupation with defense spending has been a constant theme since he came to office in 2016 and is expected to feature at the next NATO summit, in London on Dec. 3-4.

Macron said that the European members of the 29-nation alliance "should reassess the reality of what NATO is in the light of the commitment of the United States."

More broadly, Trump's trade tariffs against the EU also have rankled European members of NATO. And his decision to pull the United States out of the Paris climate agreement particularly annoyed Macron.

In the interview, Macron said that Trump "doesn't share our idea of the European project." He added that Europe stands on "the edge of a precipice" and must start thinking like a geopolitical power, otherwise it will "no longer be in control of our destiny.'

NATO did not immediately respond to a request for comment, but Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said recently that the allies "are doing more together than we have done for many years."

"NATO has implemented the biggest reinforcement of our collective defense in decades — the biggest adaptation of our alliance since the end of the Cold War," Stoltenberg told reporters on Oct. 24. "The U.S. is not decreasing its presence in Europe but actually increasing its presence in Europe."

The United States is the biggest and most influential member of NATO. It spends more on its defense budget than all the others combined.

#### **MILITARY**

## **History:** World more splintered after fall

Today, Fukuyama acknowledges that some developments over the decades have disappointed him. He says his book wasn't a prediction, but an acknowledgement that many more democracies were coming into existence.

Now the world is in a phase he didn't anticipate. In a recent interview with The Associated Press, Fukuyama took time to reflect on some of what he has seen — and what could still happen.

■ After the wall — the first years: With the passage of the decades, Fukuyama says, now "you have a whole generation of people who didn't experience the Cold War or Communism

In those initial years after the wall came down, new countries were born and Germany reunified. But wars and conflicts also erupted after the Soviet Union collapsed

and postcolonial debt-settling spiked.

Some of the 1990s' bloodiest civil wars

— Congo, Liberia — became footnotes to history. Rwanda endured a genocide that killed hundreds of thousands. Yugosla-via, ripped asunder by sustained violence, massacres and displacement, produced far

more coverage and even new nations. Western military intervention at the end of the 1990s blunted Serbia's nationalism and unshackled Kosovo. A weakened Russia was in no position to help its traditional ally in Belgrade. But the global economy was generally strong.

Then came 9/11.

■ The early 21st century — tectonic shifts: Al-Qaida took terror to a never-before-seen level that was watched in realtime around the world. In response, the Bush administration invaded Afghanistan and ousted the Taliban, which had hosted Osama bin Laden as he plotted against the West. Eighteen years later, the U.S. is still there.

The Iraq War was based on false intelligence that Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, backed by the U.S. when he fought Iran, possessed weapons of mass destruction. Washington pushed a "you're either

with us or against us" global outreach that backfired in some places - most notably in Britain, where then-Prime Minister Tony Blair remains a political outcast to this day for following Bush.

Fukuyama was once aligned with neoconservatives and supported the Iraq invasion, but later declared his opposition to the war. Now, he says the Iraq War undermined American policy around the world, while the 2008 financial crisis undercut the U.S. claim that it had established a good economic international order.

Says Fukuyama: "I think those two events paved the way for a lot of the populist backlash that we're seeing now.

■ Populism and the cult of personality: Fukuyama says he's dismayed so many voters could choose divisive populist leaders who lack a formula for governing democratically.

A marriage of populism and nationalism is a dominant dynamic now in many places
—from Trump's "America First" to Brexit, from Israel's refusal to give up settlements in occupied Palestinian territory to India's accelerated crackdown in disputed Kashmir and Turkey's recent invasion of Syria.

Fukuyama says the populist leader's playbook typically goes something like this: "I represent you, the people. You are pure and the elites are corrupt, and I need to eliminate them from our political system.

But Fukuyama says he still believes that the checks and balances in democracies long-established institutions will continue

Populism, he argues, isn't conducive to good governance — or, necessarily, pros-"Launching a trade war ... doesn't perity. seem like a very good idea for continued prosperity," he says. "It could be that these types of movements will be self-limiting in

■ Syria, the Islamic State and the global refugee crisis: The ruinous civil war in Syria, in its ninth year, began with an up-rising against President Bashar Assad as part of the ill-fated 2011 Arab Spring that



East German border guards are seen through a gap in the Berlin wall in 1989 after demonstrators pulled down a segment of the wall at Brandenburg Gate, Berlin.

deposed autocrats but replaced them with more dictatorship, war and chaos.

The Syrian conflict brought suffering of a monstrous magnitude: hundreds of thousands killed, millions displaced and the rise of the barbaric Islamic State, which at one point controlled vast swaths of both Syria and Iraq and carried out terror attacks across Europe.

A byproduct of ISIS' rise was the global refugee crisis and the flight of persecuted millions on a scale not seen since World

To Fukuyama, the rapid rise in migration produced cultural backlash and an antimmigrant feeling that was exploited by "a lot of pretty opportunistic politicians who saw this as a big opportunity to mobilize new sources of support for themselves.'

■ The resurgence of Russia: The road from the dissolution of the Soviet Union to today's powerful Russia has been messy and not without its initial humiliations for Moscow.

Boris Yeltsin's years in power after Mikhail Gorbachev's ouster as the last Soviet leader were characterized by a freewheeling approach to the free market which introduced kleptocracy, the selling off of state industries and the era of oligarchs, mafia and defeat in the first Chechnya war.

Then, on the stroke of the new millennium, Vladimir Putin came to power as a counterbalance to the Western liberalism he so often rails against.

On his watch, a second war with Chechnya killed thousands. Russia invaded Georgia and annexed Crimea from Ukraine after backing Russian separatists.

With fresh dominance in its own backyard, Russia began to look further afield, most notably meddling in the U.S. election, which some say helped Trump reach the White House.

In 2018, Putin — still in power, still a risk-taker - boasted of the development of new nuclear weapons that have no equivalent in the West. They came, he said, in response to U.S. withdrawal from a Cold War-era treaty banning missile defenses and U.S. efforts to develop a missile defense system. "No one has listened to us," he said. "You listen to us now."

Fukuyama says of Putin: He "has created a form of Russian nationalism that is dependent on empire, (on) his control of all of the countries surrounding Russia. He feels that he is basically at war with the West. This is a hangover from Soviet times because that is the world he grew up in.'

■ China the superpower: China's authoritarian grip on anything it perceives as its internal affairs, from mass detentions and abuse of Muslims in Xinjiang province to its no-patience approach to Hong Kong protesters, continues unabated.

Beijing's rise in the last three decades has redrawn the geopolitical map. Its financial clout, its attempts to extend its footprint with its Belt and Road Initiative and inresolved trade issues with the United States make it a wildcard more than ever.

Fukuyama says China's increased wealth and power is upending the international system - no matter how that power is used. But, he notes, since Xi Jinping came to power, China has moved in "a much more authoritarian direction.

The new landscape, he says, "has led to the current deterioration of U.S.-China relations. And I'm afraid that's a situation that is going to persist even if you had a different (U.S.) administration in power.

■ From 1989 to 2019 — The big sweep Looking back from today, Fukuyama still thinks the Berlin Wall's fall was, on balance, a huge gain for human freedom.

One of the darker historical ironies of the past 30 years — primarily in Europe has been the shift by once-communist states to the far right, in some cases embracing ideologies not far from fascism. But despite "worries about countries like Hungary and Poland," Fukuyama believes they are still much better off than under a communist dictatorship.

Many people don't quite understand how being part of the European Union, for example, has afforded them peace and stability that didn't exist before.

Today, Fukuyama looks to other uprisings - protest movements in Hong Kong, Algeria and Sudan, for example — and says he holds out hope for a new moment when history might encounter another crossroads.

He calls it the "spirit of 1989."



A woman walks near sections of the Berlin Wall and the sculpture of the Bear, the symbol of Berlin, near the Cheonggye stream in Seoul, South Korea, in September.



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# Recanvass set in close race for Ky. governor

By Bruce Schreiner

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Republican Gov. Matt Bevin said next week's recarvass of the vote count in Kentucky's gubernatorial election won't be his last move in challenging the results, which showed him more than 5,000 votes behind Democrat Andy Beshear.

Beshear, meanwhile, said he's confident in the election outcome and is focused on taking office as governor in December. And some prominent

Kentucky
Kepublicans
have begun
calling on
Beshear to
concede.
"What-



Bevin

change this overall number of votes." Beshear said at a news conference Wednesday. "We are going to take the steps to move forward to make sure that we are ready ... on the day that we're inaugurated."

Beshear led by less than 0.4 percentage points in Tuesday night's count of more than 1.4 million votes, which would trigger arecount in most states. Kentucky doesn't have a mandatory recount law, but Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes has scheduled a recanvass for Nov. 14 to ensure the vote count was added correctly.

Bevin said late Wednesday in Frankfort that his team is gathering evidence of what he's calling "irregularities" in the voting. The governor claimed that thousands of absentee ballots may have been illegally counted, and suggested that people may have been improperly turned away from the polls. He offered no specifics and said such claims need corroboration.

"We're in the process of getting affidavits and other information that will help us to get a better understanding of what did or did not happen," he said. Bevin added that any information turned up won't be "followed through on" until after the recanvass — an indication he could seek further review of the election results.

Beshear's campaign responded with a statement repeating that he hopes Bevin honors the results. The campaign noted that a recansas has never led to a reversal of an election result in Kentucky. "I don't know what information he's working off of," Beshear said earlier Wednesday when asked about Bevin's claim of "irregularities."

The Associated Press has not declared a winner, in keeping with its policy not to call races that could go to a recount. Although there is no mandatory recount law in Kentucky, the AP is applying that same standard here. If Bevin does decide to press for a recount, he would need a court's approval.

Kentucky inaugurates its governors in December following an election. Beshear — the son of Kentucky's last Democratic governor, Steve Beshear — named his top deputy in the attorney general's office, J. Michael Brown, to lead his transition team.



A campaign poster for Seattle City Council incumbent candidate Kshama Sawant is posted outside her campaign headquarters in Seattle on Oct. 23. Amazon has funneled \$1.5 million in hopes to overhaul Seattle's City Council with retail and business friendly candidates, but it didn't go in their favor.

## Amazon's spending in Seattle City Council races may have backfired

By Gene Johnson Associated Press

SEATTLE — Amazon poured \$1.5 million into an effort to overhaul Seattle's City Council this year. It didn't deliver.

Though many votes remain to be counted, early returns suggest the online retail giant and other business interests will have fewer obvious allies on the Council than at any time in record memory.

In Amazon's liberal hometown, that Amazon's liberal hometown are more willing to tax companies to address the city's homelessness crisis and transportation problems. It could also mean a Council that's ready to rein in corporate spending in city elections.

"On balance, this is not the City Council that Amazon or the Chamber of Commerce wanted to see," Council Member Lorena Gonzalez, who was not up for reelection, said Wednesday.

Amazon contributed to the political action committee of the Metropolitan Seattle Chamber of Commerce, which supported a slate of seven candidates it perceived as more business-friendly.

Former Mayor Mike McGim noted that when he took office in 2010, seven of the nine council members were backed by the chamber. After this election, he said, the chamber is likely to have just two or three.

"Amazon's spending helped unite and grow the left," McGinn said Wednesday. "The labor and social justice block gained seats in this election."

Many people in Seattle were displeased with the nine-member Council, especially over its handling of homelessness. Four incumbents declined to seek re-election, and business groups saw a chance to redirect a city government that had recently approved labor-friendly measures such as the \$15 minimum wage, requirements that companies post workers' schedules two weeks in advance and protections for hotel workers.

The effort may have backfired

by sparking outrage on the left. Democratic presidential candidates Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders accused Amazon of trying to buy the council.

The number of individual donation to socialist Council Member Kshama Sawant, a fierce Amazon critic and a prime target of its campaign spending, soared. Gonzalez and the other Council member who was not up for election this year, Teresa Mosqueda, declined to endorse Sawant in the primary — but they did so enthusiastically after Amazon made a big contribution in mid-October.

Even Sawant's opponent, gay pride festival organizer Egan Orion — a purported beneficiary of Amazon's spending — criticized it in an interview Tuesday night. He said he knew voters who changed their votes to Sawant in response.

If he does win after leading in early returns, he said, he wants it to be on his own merits, without

"the shadow of Amazon hanging over me."

## Women keep up winning streak in Trump-era political surge

By SARAH RANKIN AND SARA BURNETT Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — In its 400year history, Virginia's House of Delegates has never been led by a woman.

There's a good chance that might change soon. Two women are among the contenders for the powerful role of House speaker after Virginia Democrats continued their winning streak under President Donald Trump on Tuesday, seizing control of both the House and Senate from Republicans for the first time in more than two decades.

"Long overdue," said House Minority Leader Eileen FillerCorn, a top candidate for the job. It's just one example of the

It's just one example of the gains made around the country by women — most of them Demo-crats and many of them women of color — who have aimed their energy and political might at Trump since the 2016 election. The surge of female winners that continued Tuesday was a troubling signal for the president ahead of his re-election bid, but it also revealed political shifts already underway. Tuesday's results also mean

women will hold majorities in places like the Boston City Council, long seen by many as a "boys' club," and lead communities such as Scranton, Pa., where voters elected the city's first female mayor, just weeks before she's due to give birth.

A cyclist who lost her job after she flipped off a Trump motorcade won a seat on a county board in Virginia in a district that's also home to one of Trump's golf courses. In Maine, a 23-year-old Somali American woman was elected to the Lewiston City Council, defeating another Democrat and what she described as "internet trolls" who lobbed racist and sexist attacks via social media in the campaign's final weeks.

While Republicans have struggled to match Democrats in electing and elevating women in office, Tuesday's elections did show a bright spot in Trump territory.

GOP women were behind record wins in Mississippi, where 12 women — eight Republicans and four Democrats — won seats in the state Senate. The previous record was nine, set in 2016.

But there's little doubt the increased involvement of women in politics is poised to benefit Democrats in the near term.

Trump's victory over Hillary Clinton prompted millions of women across the U.S. to march in protest and organize against him and his policies. Women also began running for office in larger numbers, picking up seats in the 2017 election and the 2018 midterms, when a record 102 women were elected to Congress, helping Democrats win House control. A record number of women then jumped into the race for the Demi-

ocratic nomination for president.

The latest wins show that what happened in 2017 and 2018 wasn't just a moment but has created lasting change, said Amanda Renteria, interim president of Emerge America, which recruits and trains Democratic women to run for office. She noted that women first elected in 2017 such as Virginia Rep. Danica Roem, the first openly transgender person elected and seated in a state legislature, were reelected Tuesday.

"Women continue to win, but we are now here to stay," said Renteria, who was national political director for Clinton's 2016 campaign.

# Top diplomat to be 1st to publicly testify

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, LISA MASCARO AND ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats announced they will launch public impeachment hearings next week, intending to bring to life weeks of closed-door testimony and lay out a convincing narra-tive of presidential misconduct by Donald Trump.

First to testify will be William Taylor, the top diplomat in Ukraine, who has relayed in private his understanding that there was a blatant quid pro quo with Trump holding up military aid to a U.S. ally facing threats from its giant neighbor Russia.

That aid, at the heart of the impeachment inquiry, is alleged to have been held hostage until Ukraine agreed to investigate political foe Joe Biden and the idea, out of the mainstream of U.S. intelligence findings, that Ukraine interfered in the 2016 U.S. election

The testimony of Taylor, a career envoy and war veteran with 50 years of service to the U.S., is what Democrats said Wednesday they want Americans to hear

Taylor has told investigators about an "irregular channel" that the Republican president's per-

sonal lawver Rudy Giu-liani set up for Ukraine diplomacy how and the White House was holding un the military aid, according to a transcript of his



closed-door interview released

Wednesday. "That was my clear understanding, security assistance money would not come until the

president committed to pursue the investigation," Taylor said. He was asked if he was aware that "quid pro quo" meant "this

"I am," he replied.

Trump has denied any wrong-

doing, and Republicans largely dismiss the impeachment inquiry, now into its second month, as a sham.

But Rep. Adam Schiff, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee leading the probe, said that with two days of hearings next week Americans will have a chance to decide for themselves.

"The most important facts are largely not contested," the California Democrat said. "Those open hearings will be an opportunity for the American people to evaluate the witnesses for themselves, to make their own determinations about the credibility of the witnesses, but also to learn firsthand about the facts of the president's misconduct."

Along with Taylor, the public will hear from former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, whom Trump fired after what she and others say was a smear campaign against her, and career State Department official George Kent. Taylor and Kent will appear Wednesday, Yovanovitch on Friday.

To prepare for what's ahead,

the White House is beefing up its communications operations

Trump ally Pam Bondi, the former attorney general of Florida, and Tony Sayegh, a former Treasurv Department spokesman are expected to join the White House team to work on "proactive impeachment messaging," a senior administration official told The Associated Press. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal staffing.

The Trump administration has ordered officials not to participate in the House inquiry. But lawmakers have spent weeks hearing from current and former government witnesses, largely from the State Department, as one official after another has relayed his or her understanding of events.

The testimony from Taylor further connected Trump, Giuliani and the administration to a guid-pro-guo agreement that came to light after a government whistleblower's complaint about Trump's July 25 phone call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.

Even before that call, Taylor

said, he and other diplomats involved in Ukraine policy started having concerns about a shadow foreign policy being run by Trump and his private attorney.

Taylor testified that the concerns reached high levels at the White House. In a July 10 meeting with Trump's national security adviser John Bolton, Trump's ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sondland raised the idea of Ukrainian investigations.

That "triggered Ambassador Bolton's antenna, political antenna, and he said 'we don't do politics here," Taylor testified, noting that Bolton ended the meeting.

Bolton, who resigned from the administration later, did not show up for an interview with House investigators Thursday. His lawver said he would not come without a subpoena.

All three of those scheduled to appear in public hearings next week have already testified behind closed doors, and investigators in recent days started releasing hundreds of pages of transcripts from their interviews.

## Pence aide appears for impeachment interview

By MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON - An aide to Vice President Mike Pence was speaking to impeachment investigators Thursday as Democrats wrap up the closed-door phase of

Jennifer Williams, a career foreign service officer detailed to Pence's office from the State Department, was subpoenaed to appear. She is one of several White House aides who were listening in on a July phone call between President Donald Trump and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in which Trump asked the new leader to investigate Democrats, according to an administration official who requested anonymity to discuss the conversation. Investigators are wrapping up

the private interviews as they prepare to start public hearings next week

Democrats scheduled 13 witnesses to testify behind closed doors this week, but so far only Williams and another State Department employee, David Hale, have shown up. Trump has directed his employees not to cooperate with the probe.

In addition to former national security adviser John Bolton, Democrats had requested interviews from two other high-level Trump administration witnesses, acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney and Energy Secretary Rick Perry. Perry did not show up for his Wednesday interview and Mulvaney was not expected to appear for his scheduled deposition on Friday. Bolton did not show up Thursday.

An attorney for Bolton, Charles Cooper, said his client had not received a subpoena. Cooper had

previously said Bolton wouldn't appear without one. Still. Democrats have indicated

that they already have ample testimony about Trump's conduct on Ukraine. A slew of current and former officials from the State Department and White House have already appeared and largely

corroborated the same narrative that Trump had delegated his lawyer. Rudy Giuliani, to guide Ukraine policy and that the two men were focused on pressuring Ukraine as the administration withheld military aid from the country.

Democrats say that witnesses

like Bolton, Mulvaney and Perry will just add fuel to their case that the president has obstructed justice. They say obstruction is likely to be an article of impeachment against Trump, when and if they are written. Williams is the first person directly connected with Pence to testify in the probe.



Jennifer Williams, a special adviser to Vice President Mike Pence for Europe and Russia who is a career Foreign Service officer, arrives for a closed-door interview in the impeachment inquiry on Thursday.

## Trump denies he wanted Barr to publicly clear him in Ukraine call

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump on Thursday denied a report that he wanted Attorney General William Barr to hold a press conference to declare he broke no laws during a July phone call in which Trump pressed his Ukrainian counterpart to investigate Democrats.

Trump tweeted just after midnight that the story, first reported by The Washington Post, "is totally untrue and just another FAKE NEWS story with anonymous sources that don't exist.' And he continued to lash out

at the press, declaring "The LameStream Media" to be the "Enemy of the People." The Post reported that Barr

rebuffed the request, which came in September around the time the White House released a rough transcript of Trump's July 25 call at the center of the House impeachment probe. The paper, citing unidentified people familiar with the effort, said the request was relaved from the president to White House officials and then to the Justice Department House Democrats are inves-

tigating Trump's pressure on Ukraine to investigate political rivals as aid money was being withheld from the Eastern European country.

Trump insists he did nothing wrong.

"Just read the Transcript," he wrote Thursday. "The Justice Department already ruled that the call was good."

That appears to be a reference to a statement from the Justice Department in September announcing that the department's Criminal Division "reviewed the official record of the call and determined, based on the facts and applicable law, that there was no campaign finance violation and that no further action was warranted."

Barr famously held a news conference ahead of the release of special counsel Robert Mueller's report into Russian election meddling. Barr painted what many saw as an overly flattering picture as it related to Trump and repeatedly declared investigators had found "no collusion" between the Trump campaign and Russia, a point Trump had seized on to try to claim vindication.

While the appearance drew praise from Trump, it also raised alarms from critics already wary of his independence after Barr released a letter summarizing the reports' conclusions.

# **Immigration exposes divide among Dems**

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

WASHINGTON Sanders is adding his support to a call by some of his fellow presidential hopefuls for decriminalizing illegal border crossings, a proposal that's further exposing deep ideological divides in the Democratic primary and may prove politically treacherous for the party in the general election.

The Vermont senator released a detailed immigration policy proposal on Thursday, writing, 'Unauthorized presence in the United States is a civil, not a criminal, offense." He vowed to repeal existing statutes that put "border crossings on par with other forms of immigration violations, such as overstaving a visa.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren called in July for repealing the criminal prohibition against crossing the border illegally, promising in her own im-migration plan to "immediately issue guidance to end criminal prosecutions for simple administrative immigration violations." South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg has suggested he'd support making illegal border crossings civil offenses, but not in cases in which "fraud is involved," a potentially key caveat. Former Vice President Joe Biden also hasn't fully backed decriminalization of illegal border crossings, saying during a July presidential debate, "If you cross the border illegally, you should be able to be sent back. It's a crime.

The issue illustrates another

important fault line between relative moderates like Biden and Buttigieg and those White House candidates willing to openly embrace progressive values like Sanders and Warren. Still, grappling with full decriminalization could be a tough sell for Democrats after the primary when their nominee will face voters who may disagree with President Donald Trump's hard-line U.S.-Mexico border policies - he leads cheers of "Finish the wall!" at his rallies but worry about moving too far in the other direction.

"The problem with decriminalizing undocumented crossings is it fulfills the Republican narrative that Democrats want open borders, and that will be an absolute killer for us in November," said Colin Strother, a Texas Democratic strategist who lived for years along the Rio Grande.

In Thursday's plan, Sanders also promised to use executive orders to halt construction of the U.S.-Mexico border wall, put a moratorium on all deportations until current federal policy can be audited and allow people seeking U.S. asylum to remain in the country while their claims are processed rather than being sent to Mexico or elsewhere. And he vowed to break up the Department of Homeland Security.

Sanders said he was taking back an issue that should be about humanitarianism and not be viewed through the national security prism it often has been since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks - nor used to stoke racist fears for political gain like he said Trump has done. His advisers shrugged off concerns that decriminalizing illegal border crossings may make their campaign, or those of other Democrats, seem soft on

immigration. "As sure as the sun coming un tomorrow, Trump will still be racist," Sanders national policy director Josh Orton said. "But Bernie will never waver from his commitment to a humane and rational immigration system, which is supported by the overwhelm-ing majority of Americans."

Even as Trump, who has denied being racist, makes immigration a centerpiece of his reelection strategy, however, it has largely been overshadowed in the Democratic primary by other issues like universal health coverage under "Medicare for All.

## Gabbard's denials of a 3rd-party bid don't ease Democrats' fears

Associated Press

Tulsi Gabbard keeps making her fellow Democrats nervous.

The Hawaii congresswoman and Democratic presidential candidate appeared on Tucker Carlson's show on Fox News. She wrote for the conservative-leaning editorial pages of The Wall Street Journal.

She denounced Hillary Clinton as the "per-

sonification of the rot that has sickened Democratic Party for so long. And facing a stiff primary challenge for her congressional seat, she recently announced



her retirement from Congress. That's feeding fears among party leaders and pundits that Gabbard isn't necessarily aiming to win a Democratic primary but is laying the groundwork to run as a third-party candidate. Such a scenario, they fear, could slice off just enough support from the ultimate Democratic nominee that President Donald Trump could win reelection.

Gabbard repeatedly denies planning an independent candidacy, as she did Wednesday when she told ABC's "The View" that she's "running to build a new Democratic Party."

Tom Perez, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, also sought to quell the rumors Wednesday.

"Tulsi Gabbard and every single candidate running for presi-dent understands that it's not about them," he told reporters, noting that Gabbard is among the Democrats who have pledged not to run as a third-party candidate. "It's about something much bigger."

The anxiety isn't going away. Often expressed privately for fear of pushing Gabbard further from the party, the concerns mirror the handwringing over the abortive presidential bid by former Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz earlier this year. Then, Democrats feared Schultz would peel off enough affluent, suburban voters to reelect Trump Now, they worry Gabbard's vocal anti-interventionist stance could do the same with younger liberal voters and others unhappy with the Democratic establishment.

Trump was able to win in 2016 with a minority of the popular vote in part because those who disapproved of him in a handful of battleground states split their votes between Clinton and thirdparty candidates, giving an unusually large share to the Green Party's Jill Stein and the Libertarian Party's Gary Johnson.

Democrats fear a repeat. Only this time, Gabbard, 38, a Samoan-American congresswoman with an unusual mix of political views who has participated in three of the Democrats debates and, on Wednesday, qualified for a fourth, could draw far more attention than Stein and Johnson did.

Some political analysts Democratic worries may be excessive.

"This is something that's significantly fueled by the 2016 experience," said Josh Putnam, a political scientist who tracks presidential elections through the site FrontloadingHQ.com.

During elections for open presidential seats, third-party votes tend to spike. But during an incumbent president's reelection campaign, they usually dwindle.



Supporters of President Donald Trump listen as he speaks during a campaign rally at the Monroe Civic Center on Wednesday in Monroe, La.

# Trump on stump in La. runoff

Associated Press

MONROE, La. - President Donald Trump worked up a sweat in a steamy Louisiana arena Wednesday night as he attempted to boost Republican businessman Eddie Rispone's effort to unseat incumbent Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards in the nation's last governor's race of the year.

"It may be 120 degrees in this room." Trump told

the crowd at the end of a rally in the northeastern Louisiana city of Monroe.

"Somebody is saying on air conditioning." Trump joked. "That's all right. You've always got to save a little money. You go home and you lose about nine pounds and you say, 'What happened?'

The gubernatorial runoff election in Louisiana offers Trump an opportunity to pick up a win in a rare Democratic-held governor's seat in the Deep South and change the narrative after a pair of apparent setbacks this week for the Republican Party in Kentucky and Virginia.

"You're going out to replace a radical, liberal Democrat as your governor," Trump said. "John Bel Edwards has not done the job."

Trump is going all in with the Louisiana governor's race.

The White House confirmed he would visit Bossier City on Nov. 14, two days before Louisiana voters

head to polls. Trump also visited Lake Charles last month to encourage voters to back one of the Republicans ahead of the state's open primary. Because no candidate won a majority in the October primary, the top two vote-getters - Edwards and Rispone - advanced to the Nov. 16 runoff.

Trump told the friendly audience that a vote for Rispone is a vote for his agenda, which he said Democrats have tried to hamstring through an impeachment inquiry.

The American people are fed up with Democrat lies, hoaxes, smears, slanders and scams. The Democrats' shameful conduct has created an angry majority. And that's what we are," Trump said. "We're a majority, and we're angry, that will vote the donothing Democrats out of office in 2020.'

With Wednesday's visit to Monroe, Trump waded into the heart of the congressional district represented by Republican Ralph Abraham, the third-place finisher in last month's gubernatorial primary. Both Rispone and Edwards are competing for Abraham's voters. Polls show a tight race, with few undecided and both campaigns hoping Trump will mobilize voters in their bases.

Trump called Abraham "a better man" than him for getting behind Rispone after a hard-fought primary. Abraham urged voters to get out the vote for



MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/AP

A hole is seen Monday in the ceiling of a bathroom where Santos Fonseca and Jonathan Salazar escaped from in the county jail in Salinas, Calif.

# Pair of escaped inmates are arrested at US-Mexico border

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Authorities are trying to determine if anyone helped two inmates who escaped from a California jail, traveled hundreds of miles and crossed into Mexico before being captured trying to walk back into the United States.

Jonathan Salazar, 20, and Santos Fonseca, 21, were arrested by U.S. Customs and Border Protec-

tion officials at a port of entry in San Ysidro — the nation's largest border crossing — early Wednesday, Monterey County Sheriff's Office Capt. John Thornburg said.

Thornburg said the two are in the custody of Monterey County officials and have been returned to a jail in Salinas, a farming city of about 160,000 people roughly 100 miles south of Son Exercises.

open a hatch.

of San Francisco.

Salazar and Fonseca escaped

Sunday from the lockup in Salinas after climbing
through a hole they made in the ceiling of a bathroom, souecaing through a hollow wall and kicking

Officials found their jail-issued jumpsuits outside the building. Inmates often wear their own clothes under the jumpsuits, Thornburg said.

Investigators have not yet determined how long they worked on making the hole or if anyone else helped them escape or helped them after they were out. They were reported missing at 8:15 a.m. Sunday.

Thornburg said authorities received a tip that the pair, both born and raised in Salinas, had been spotted in the Mexican border city of Tijuana, around 400 miles south of Monterey County, and alerted federal officials.

CBP spokeswoman Jackie Wasiluk said the men

didn't present any documents. They said they were U.S. citizens, and a check of law enforcement databases told border inspectors that they were wanted by authorities.

How the pair made it to Mexico, why they decided to travel together since they allegedly belong to rival gangs and why they returned to the United States is under investigation, Thornburg said.

"The good news here is they are in custody again,"
Thornburg said.

Salazar and Fonseca will be housed separately in a different housing unit from the one they escaped, Thornburg said, adding that officials had already made security improvements to the jail. He said he couldn't provide details.

Both had been in custody since 2018 and were awaiting trial on murder counts and "numerous other felony charges" in separate cases.



Fonseca

# Texas cop who shot woman in her home critiqued for having some 'tunnel vision'

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — A white Fort Worth police officer who fatally shot a black woman in her home last month had been critiqued in a 2018 performance review for missing calls for help over the radio and sometimes having "tumel vision."

Aaron Dean's supervisor commended him in his most recent evaluation, in April 2019, for working at the level of more experienced officers, exhorting him to "keep up the good work," according to records obtained by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. But his supervisor was critical in earlier performance reviews, writing that Dean had poor communication skills and accusing him of being evasive rather than owning up to doing wrong.

The records offer new insight into the 35-year-old who is facing a murder charge for shooting Atatiana Jefferson, 28, through her back window after responding to a call about an open front door. He resigned from the department in

October without answering questions about the shooting.

During his 2017 police department job interview, Dean said he wanted to serve the public and liked "the action and adventure" that he believed came with being an officer. Dean said he had aspired to join the military and saw becoming an officer as a "way to do some of those same things without having to deploy overseas." He said he would have "no problem" using lethal force if necessary.

# Migrants live in fear at border amid violence

By Elliot Spaga: Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A Salvadoran woman seeking asylum in the United States spends her days holed up in her cousin's cramped slum house just across the border in Mexico — too scared to leave after receiving a savage beating from two men three weeks ago while she was strolling home from a convenience store.

The assault came after she spent four months in captivity in Mexico, kidnapped into prostitution during her journey toward the U.S.

The woman, 31, is among 55,000 migrants who have been returned to Mexico by the Trump administration to wait for their cases to wind through backlogged immigration courts. Her situation offers a glimpse into some of the program's problems.

Critics have said the administration's policy denies asylum seekers like the Salvadoran woman fair and humane treatment, forcing them to wait in a country plagued by drug-fueled violence — Illustrated this week by the slaughter near the U.S. border of six children and three women. All were U.S. citizens living in Mexico.

ing in Mexico.

The Trump administration insists that the program is a salaternative in collaboration with the government of Mexico, even as the president vows to wage war on drug cartels that are a dominant presence in the dangerous border cities where migrants are forced to wait.

The Department of Homeland Security added in a report last week that the program is "an indispensable tool in addressing the ongoing crisis at the southern border and restoring integrity to the immigration system."

The woman said in an interview that she fled Santa Ana, El Salvador, on Jan. 31 after days on the run from a police officer who demanded sexual acts.

She never said goodbye to her five children — ages 5 to 12 — fearing the officer would discover where they lived. The Associated Press granted her anonymity because she fears for her safety if her identity is revealed.

She said she was kidnapped after leaving a Mexican government office on its southern border with Guatemala after inquiring about getting asylum in Mexico.

She and others were taken in a minivan to Ciudad Juarez, on Mexico's border with Texas. Captors in a large room argued over who would take possession of the men, women and children gathered there.

One wanted to extort money from her family. A second wanted to force her into prostitution and she ended up with him before her escape this summer to the home of a stranger who paid for her bus ticket to her cousin who lives across the border from San Diego.

She said she shared her story with U.S. authorities after she walked across the border illegally alone on Sept. 18 where the wall end sin Tijuana, Mexico, and waited for an agent to arrest her. They rejected her pleas that it was too dangerous for her to return to Mexico to wait for a date in U.S. immigration court for a judge to hear her case.

Then, on Oct. 14., she said she was punched and whipped with a belt by assailants near her cousin's home in a hillside neighborhood of dirt and concrete roads and empty, half-built homes occupied by drug addicts and squatters.

She still had bruises as her case was heard last week in San Diego, when immigration Judge Lee O'Connor made no secret of his disdain for the policy of keeping asylum seekers waiting in Mexico

The scene in the courtroom was chaotic, with the infant child of a Honduran woman whimpering and then bellowing as O'Connor entered.

"Silence in the courtroom!" he barked. A guard escorted the child and his mother to the hall-way. The judge questioned the two attorneys representing asylum seekers about how long it took them to visit clients in Mexico, noting infamously long waits to cross the border. "Hours," the judge marveled.

Hours, the judge marveieu. But the judge ruled the Salva-doran woman and the Honduran family were ineligible for the program because, in his view, the law governing asylum seekers only allows it for people who present themselves at official border crossings — not for immigrants like her who entered illegally.

Customs and Border Protection officials then sent the woman back to Mexico with a notice telling her she had another court date set for Dec. 16, even though her case had been terminated.

The woman's lawyer, Siobhan Waldron, accused Customs and Border Protection of making up the Dec. 16 court date to get the woman out of the U.S. and back to Mexico. Waldron said she does not know what will come next for her client.

Customs and Border Protection did not provide answers to emailed questions about the

# Calif. discloses Facebook probe, sues for records

By Tall Arbei Associated Press

California's attorney general disclosed an ongoing probe into Facebook's privacy practices Wednesday, as it sued the company over its repeated refusal to turn over documents and answer questions.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said his probe has been going on for more than a year. He said he was disclosing it now because his office was making a public court filing to force the company to comply with subpoenas and requests for information. "Facebook is not just continu-

ing to drag its feet in response to the Attorney General's investigation, it is failing to comply," the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit was filed in state Superior Court in San Francisco.

The California probe, one of many legal and regulatory inquiries into Facebook, began as a response to the Cambridge Analytica scandal and grew into an investigation into whether Facebook misrepresented its privacy

practices, deceived users and broke California law.

Cambridge Analytica, a datamining firm, gathered details on as many as 87 million Facebook users without their permission. The Federal Trade Commission fined Facebook S5 billion this summer for privacy violations in an investigation that also grew out of that scandal. California officials say questions have been raised about what Facebook knew and why it didn't prevent third parties such as Cambridge Analytica from misusing user data.

The court filing said Facebook hasn't given answers on 19 of the attorney general's questions and hasn't given any new documents in response to six document requests. The filing also said Facebook has refused to search the emails of top executives Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl Sandberg, as the state requested.

Becerra's office said it requested additional information after Facebook took a year to respond to an initial subpoena.

Investigators sought communications among executives on developers' access to user data, the relationship between ad spending and access to data and the introduction of new privacy features and privacy-related news stories. Officials also sought information on the effects of privacy settings on third-party access to data and Facebook's enforcement of policies.

Facebook, which has its headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif., didn't respond to requests for comment.

California hadn't joined a separate probe involving attorneys general from New York and other states. The New York probe is looking into Facebook's dominance and any resulting anticompetitive conduct. California is also a holdout in a separate probe into Google's market dominance.

The District of Columbia and Massachusetts have also gone after Facebook on privacy. The Massachusetts attorney general's office is set to argue in a state court Thursday why Facebook should be compelled to stop resisting and turn over documents for its investigation.

Facebook's various legal trou-



10.00

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said Wednesday that Facebook is failing to comply in an ongoing probe of its privacy precisions.

bles have yet to make a significant financial dent on the company. Even the FTC's \$5 billion fine, the largest ever for a tech company, came to just under one-tenth of Facebook's revenue last year. The penalty was criticized by consumer advocates and a number of public officials as being too lenient.

## Acting UAW head says he'll clean up the fraud

By Tom Krisher AND ED WHITE Associated Press

DETROIT — The acting president of the United Auto Workers said Wednesday that a corruption scandal plaguing the union will get worse before it gets better, but he's confident he can fix the mess and turn over a clean house to the next leader.

Rory Gamble, a union vice president who successfully negotiated a tentative contract with Ford, took over as acting president Saturday when President Gary Jones took a paid leave of absence.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Gamble pledged to put financial controls in place to stop the bribery and embezzlement uncovered in a widening federal investigation.

"We're going to plan for going forward and how we fix this great union," Gamble said. "Right now, that's my charge and what I came to this job to do, to make sure I hand to the next president a very clean and uncorrupted union."

Gamble, a former director of a union region based in Detroit, has a tough job to do.

Earlier Wednesday, a retired union vice president became the 13th person to be charged in the federal probe of the union and auto companies. Joe Ashton is accused of receiving thousands of dollars in kickbacks from a contractor who made watches for union members. The 58,000 watches are still in storage five years later.

Ashton was charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiring to commit money laundering. The case is filed in Detroit federal court as a "criminal information," which means a guilty plea is expected.

Ashton was a powerful official who headed the UAW's General Motors department. He also was a member of the GM board but resigned in 2017 after being implicated in the corruption probe.

The federal charges against Ashton are the latest fallout in the mounting corruption investigation. Federal agents have also searched the Detroit-area home of Jones, the union president, and the Corona, Calif., home of former president Dennis Williams.

mer presentent Dermis Williams. According to court papers filed by prosecutors Wednesday, Ashton and two other officials of a joint GM-UAW training center, Michael Grimes and Jeffrey Pietrzyk, used their positions to get hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes and kickbacks from 2012 until July 2016 in a scheme involving the purchase of \$3.97 million worth of watches to be given to union members.

The men got a Philadelphia chi-



PAUL SANCYA/AF

Rory Gamble, acting head of the United Auto Workers union, says he is working on a plan to fix issues plaguing the union.

ropractor to set up a company to buy the watches from a manufacturer and resell them to the union at an inflated price. They're accused of taking kickbacks from the chiropractor.

UAW members recently ratified a new four-year contract with GM after a 40-day strike, and it has reached a tentative agreement with crosstown rival Ford, where workers are voting on the deal. It will then shift the bar gaining focus to Fiat Chrysler.

Gamble planned to meet with the union's executive board on Thursday and said he'll announce steps next week that are designed to stop corruption from happening again.

Gamble said he is "absolutely blown away" by the misconduct by union officials. "This is a testament to just how deep human frailties can go," he said.

# President Harrison's sword likely found after 40 years

By Dan Sewell Associated Press

CINCINNATI — An Ohio sheriff wearing white gloves displayed a sword wielded in the American Revolution and by a future U.S. president in the War of 1812 and pledged Wednesday an exhaustive investigation to determine whether it's the one that disappeared from Cincinnati four decades ago.

It's believed the sword Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil held up was carried in battle by President William Henry Harrison and before him, Continental Army Col. John Cleves Symmes, Harrison's future father-in-law.

Police in Connecticut seized the sword last month, just before it was to be auctioned.

Members of the Harrison-Symmes Memorial Foundation, some 15 miles west of Cincinnati, are confident it is a historical sword that disappeared 40 years ago from the Cincinnati Historical Society. But would-be seller James Kochan, of Wiscasset, Maine, said he thinks the missing Cincinnati sword was a copy.

Neil agreed with the foundation members that the probability is high the sword he held is the real deal and belongs back in Cincinnati. But he said his detectives, probate court investigators, the county coroner's analysts and historians will study documents, photos, old letters and do interviews to verify that in what's expected to be a lengthy effort.

"I still have a responsibility as a peace officer ... to make sure this is, in fact, the sword in question that was stolen from the Cincinnati Historical Society 40 years ago," Neil said.

But Kochan says he still believes he has rights to the weapon.

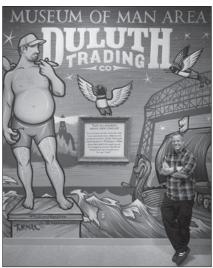
"The fact is, nothing has been established yet," Kochan said by phone. "I have legal title to the sword they have."

Kochan said he is a veteran historian, curator and collector who bought the sword in 2015 from a collection being sold by Christie's auction house in New York.

He was offering it Oct. 19 as part of an auction of artifacts from the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Napoleonic Wars

It's now in custody in Hamilton County, where the Harrison-Symmes foundation historians say the Symmes family donated it to Hamilton County Probate Court in 1922. Documents show the court loaned the sword to the Cincinnati Historical Society, which used it in a 1976 Bicentennial display.

Sometime within the next few years, it disappeared from storage in a Cincinnati museum.



BRIAN PETERSON/Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Artist Adam Turman stands by a large mural he painted inside Duluth Trading Co.'s new prototype store in Mall of America, in Bloomington, Minn. The store only carries men's underwear.

### New Duluth Trading store has only men's drawers in its drawers

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

MINNEAPOLIS — When an underwear store opens in 2019 with a "Museum of Man" inside, it can only mean Duluth Trading Co. is up to something again.

The company's impish ads for "Ballroom Jeans," "Fire Hose workpants," and "Longtail Tshirts that fix plumber's butt" have long elicited chuckles, eyerolls and occasionally criticism.

"We offend people," said Ricker Schlect, a vice president for Duluth Trading and son of owner Steve Schlect. "We get letters. We dance on the line a lot with ball jokes and butt cracks. Some people don't want to hear it, but we want people to have a smile on their face when they interact with our brand."

The company's new store that opened Thursday at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn., is its first-ever devoted only to men's underwear. It's much smaller, just 1,600 square feet, than its normal stores that carry its broader assortment of work-wear for men and women, shoes, jackets and accessories.

The Mall of America store is a prototype that Duluth Trading may take to other malls and locations. As ever, Schlect's goal is to entertain.

The Museum of Man that is interspersed among the boxers and briefs is a sendup of museum solemnity. It has placards of Amazing Ball Moments "Yes, history really can be a ball," and "How does it feel to go Buck Naked?"

A mural by artist Adam Turman features Duluth Trading's
potbellied man named Buck
wearing nothing but Buck Naked
underwear. To reinforce the company's Minnesota heritage, he's
holding a spoon and cherry while
underwear-clad loons fly near
the Duluth Lift Bridge and a boat
with sails puffed out in the shape
of boxer shorts.

"Duluth Trading is one of those great clients who took me along for the ride," Turman said. "It was fun"

The prototype represents another example of Duluth Trading's aggressive growth strategy. Eighteen months ago, the chain included 34 stores. With new stores opening this week, the count has almost doubled to 60. That's led some analysts to question the wisdom of such rapid

For many men, underwear is no longer a three-for-\$10 purchase. Manufacturers in recent years have innovated with bright colors, elaborate patterns and high-tech synthetic fabrics that reduce moisture and odor. At Duluth Trading, prices for a single pair routinely range from \$20 to \$30 for boxer briefs.

"We're not looking to compete with Kohl's or Walmart on the basics," Schlect said. "We just want to people to have fun in our store and stay a little longer than they might otherwise."

# **US says Saudis recruited Twitter workers to spy**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Saudi Arabia, frustrated by growing criticism of its leaders and policies on social media, recruited two Twitter employees to spy on thousands of accounts that included prominent opponents, U.S. prosecutors have alleged.

A complaint unsealed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in San Francisco detailed a coordinated effort by Saudi government officials to recruit employees at the social media giant to look up the private data of Twitter accounts, including email addresses linked to the accounts and internet protocol addresses that can give up a user's location. It appeared to link Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the powerful 34-year-son of King Salman, to the effort.

The accounts that were looked at included those of a popular Saudi government critic with more than 1 million followers and a news personality, but they were not named in the complaint. It marks the first time that the kingdom, long linked to the U.S. through its massive oil reserves and regional security arrangements, has been accused of spying in America.

The complaint alleged that the employees — whose jobs did not require access to Twitter users' private information — were rewarded with a designer watch and tens of thousands of dollars funneled into secret bank accounts. Ahmad Abouammo, a U.S. citizen, and Ali Alzabarah, a Saudi citizen, were charged with

acting as agents of Saudi Arabia without registering with the U.S. government.

At his appearance in Seattle federal court on Wednesday, Abouammo was ordered to remain in custody pending a detention hearing set for Friday. Investigators said Alzabarah is in Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi government's embassy in Washington did not comment on the case and its state-run media and affiliated state-linked media did not report on the charges on Wednesday or Thursday.

The allegations against the two former Twitter employees and third man who ran a social media marketing company that did work for the Saud ir oyal family comes a little more than a year after the Killing of Jamal Khashoggi. The Washington Post columnist and prominent critic of the Saudi government was slain and dismembered in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Saudi Arabia under King Salman and Prince Mohammed has aggressively silenced and detained government critics even as it allowed women to drive and opened movie theaters in the conservative kingdom.

Prince Mohammed also has been implicated by U.S. officials and a United Nations investigative report in the assassination of Khashoggi. The prince has said he bears ultimate responsibility for what happens in the kingdom's name, but he has denied orchestrating the slaying.

The new criminal allegations

would seem to show how the Saudi government has tried to control the flow of information on Twitter, said Adam Coogle, a Middle East researcher with Human Rights Watch.

The platform is the main venue for Saudis to express their views, and about a third of the country's 30 million people are active users. But the free-wheeling nature of Twitter is a major source of concern for its authoritarian government, Coogle said.

The kingdom has used different tactics to control speech and keep reformers and others from organizing, including employing troll armies to harass and intimidate users online. It has also arrested and imprisoned Twitter users.

The crown prince's former top adviser, Saud al-Qahtani, who also served as director of the cyber security federation, started the "Black List" hashtag to target critics of the government. He ominously tweeted in 2017 that the government had ways of unmasking anonymous Twitter users.

Al-Qahtani has been sanctioned for his suspected role in orchestrating the brutal killing of Khashoggi. His Twitter account was suspended in September for violating the platform's manipulation policy.

Twitter acknowledged that it cooperated in the criminal investigation and said in a statement 
that it restricts access to sensitive 
account information "to a limited group of trained and vetted

## Vegas law makes sleeping on street downtown – not on the Strip – illegal

By KEN RITTER Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Despite protests about a "war on the poor," Las Vegas officials passed a law Wednesday making it illegal for the homeless to sleep on streets when beds are available at established shelters.

The issue spurred emotion and drama, including the ejection by city marshals of several audience members who Mayor Carolyn Goodman deemed disruptive during a daylong City Council meeting that drew dozens of time-limited comments.

Most people spoke against the law before the 5-2 council vote. The measure will apply to the city's downtown urban core, not the tourist-heavy Las Vegas Strip, which is overseen by a different jurisdiction.

Goodman, the sponsor of the measure, called it imperfect but necessary to deal with what officials and downtown business owners characterize as a homeless crisis.

"This is flawed but it is a start," the mayor said after noting Las Vegas' economy relies on its image as an attractive international tourist attraction.

"We have been having these conversations for 20 years," she said, "and we must have results."

Las Vegas becomes the latest city in the U.S. West — from San Francisco and Seattle to Honolulu and Salt Lake City — to try to deal with complaints about homelessness.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down a similar law from Boise, Idaho, last year — calling it unconstitutional to prosecute people for sleeping in public places when there aren't enough shelter beds.

City Attorney Brad Jerbic said the Las Vegas law was crafted to withstand a similar legal challenge, with its "if beds are available" provision.

Opponents rejected city officials' assurances that there will be enough shelter space when necessary.

The law provides for warnings by public officers, beginning Sunday, for people found "camping, lodging, sitting, lying down, sleeping and similar activities" in most downtown areas.

Those activities become a misdemeanor beginning Jan. 1, punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

"It's criminalizing the homeless," the Rev. Leonard Jackson, associate pastor of First African Methodist Episcopal Church in North Las Vegas and director of the regional Faith Organizing Alliance said during a morning protest outside City Hall.

City officials report spending more than \$35 million on homeless-related services last year, including outreach, fire, police and community services.

#### AMERICAN ROUNDUP

#### Coworkers buy car for woman who walks home

GREER, S.C. — Coworkers bought a new vehicle for a woman who had to regularly walk 12 miles home from work after her car broke down.

Josh Lewis said he and his boss noticed Darlene Quinn, 60, on foot as they drove home from a FedEx facility near Greer. Lewis said they began offering Quinn rides, and she told them her car broke down three months ago and she couldn't afford to fix it.

Lewis told The Greenville News that Quinn had someone to drive her to work, but she had to walk home.

Lewis created a GoFundMe page and 100 coworkers and strangers donated enough to buy Quinn a car.

#### Sheriff: Man with ax found in courthouse

DOVER — Authorities in Tennessee said a man wielding an ax walked into a courthouse and made his way to a judge's chambers before being seen and arrested.

News outlets reported Michael Dupont, 46, was charged with trespassing, possession of a weapon, disorderly conduct and drug possession with intent to manufacture or sell.

Stewart County Chief Deputy Dale Ward said Dupont walked into the county courthouse through a side door that led to the basement where the offices are located. Ward says Dupont was carry-

ing a brush hook ax, which is a gardening tool.

### University taking PB&J as payment for tickets

AK ANCHORAGE — Anyone with unpaid pariing fines at the University of
Alaska Anchorage campus has
the option to reduce or cover the
cost of their tickets with peanut
butter and jelly.
Officials said the food goes to

Officials said the food goes to students in need.

University officials said each person could use PB&J payments for two citations issued within the past 45 days.

Officials said two 16-ounce jars offer a \$10 credit, three jars offer a \$35 credit and five jars offer a \$60 credit.

## Sheriff: Wrongly freed murder suspect caught

MS COLUMBUS — Authorities in Mississippi said a man charged with murder was mistakenly free for days due to a clerical error.

The Commercial Dispatch reported Malcolm Hill, 26, was found in Foley, Ala., five days after being released from a detention center in Columbus. A Lowndes County sheriff's statement said the employee responsible for the error no longs works there

Hill and his girlfriend, Victoria Slayton, 24, are charged with capital murder in a 2018 slaying. Hill was on parole for burglary and



TED S. WARREN/A

### Big wheel keeps on turning

With the Seattle Great Wheel behind him, a worker moves a cable as he works at the new Washington State Ferry Colman Dock terminal Tuesday in Seattle. The entire project to replace the terminal is scheduled to be complete in 2023.

larceny at the time and initially held on a parole violation.

#### Man in stabbing attack banished from county

SPOTSYLVANIA
COURTHOUSE — A
Virginia man who stabbed another during a fight last year is now
banned from the county where
the crime happened.

The Free Lance-Star reported Concrison Jimenez, 23, pleaded guilty to unlawful wounding in the Spotsylvania County attack. He was banished from the county.

He also was sentenced to five years in prison with all but 10 months suspended. But he won't be returning to jail as he has already served 10 months in custody in the case.

Jimenez also was ordered to pay \$24,900 in restitution to the victim, who was stabbed while trying to keep people out of the

## Baseball memorabilia to go up for public auction

OH MONTGOMERY

— Historic baseball memorabilia displayed in Ohio will soon be available to the public for auction in Kentucky.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported items from a collection displayed for years at the former THE CENSUS

pipe into the Willamette River in downtown Portland, Ore. The Oregonian/OregonLive reported the city's Bureau of Environmental Services said crews discovered the spill Tuesday morning. To put 3,000 gallons in context: The city's treatment plant takes in 70 million gallons of sewage a day. Diane Dulken, a bureau spokeswoman, said the problem was a leaking underground pipe.

The amount in gallons of raw sewage that was spilled from a

live public auction Saturday at the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory in downtown Louisville. The collection includes over 100 Hall of Fame member jerseys, hundreds of game-used bats and

Green Diamond Gallery in the

Cincinnati suburb of Montgom-

ery will be available during a

# thousands of autographed items. Caller leads police to \$800K in stolen art

LOS ANGELES—This time detectives didn't have to track down the stolen art, someone led them to it.

Los Angeles police said they recovered \$800,000 worth of prints by Scottish abstract expressionist Benjamin Creme after a caller told them they were in the person's home in the Los Angeles suburb of San Fernando.

Police believe the nearly 1,300 signed prints were there for several years but the caller who had them had only recently checked a law-enforcement database and

discovered they were stolen.

The caller, who was not identi-

fied, told police they were found among a relative's possessions after she died.

## Sheriff: Man went bar hopping on electric cart

HOUMA — A Louisiana man avoided a driving while intoxicated charge by operating an electric-powered shopping cart to get from one bar to another.

A news release from the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office said Brice Kendell Williams, 32, was accused of taking the cart from a Walmart in Houma to a bar about half a mile away.

The sheriff's office said Williams told the deputy he thought he might get charged with DWI if he drove his own vehicle from bar to bar.

Williams was charged with felony "unauthorized use of a movable."

### Fire chief accused of driving ambulance drunk

GRAND JUNCTION —
A central Iowa fire chief was accused of being drunk while driving an ambulance and taking a patient to a hospital.

Greene County court records said Thomas Launderville, 39, was charged with operating while intoxicated, second offense.

Launderville has since been dismissed as Grand Junction's fire chief.

Records said an officer arrested Launderville at the hospital, and a breath test showed Launderville had a blood alcohol content of more than twice the legal limit.

### State Police look into stolen grave markers

ANNAPOLIS — Maryland State Police are investigating the theft of 30 American Legion grave markers from a cemetery.

The police said in a news re-

The police said in a news release that the thefts occurred at the Rosebank Cemetery in Calvert in Cecil County. A caretaker of the cemetery reported the thefts after noticing they were missing from the grave sites. The markers hold a miniature

American flag and mark the graves of U.S. service members.

#### WIRED WORLD

# Game's depiction of Russians sparks backlash

By ALEX HORTON The Washington Post

At one point in the newly re-leased Call of Duty Modern Warfare, the player becomes Farah Karim as she rushes through fictional streets in Urzikstan, watching Russian soldiers massacre fellow civilians.

Her father is gunned down by a soldier eager to kill the young girl and her brother. And Farah, gripping a screwdriver, plunges the tip into the soldier's stomach before killing him with his own

The brutal scene earned some detractors in the United States, as the developers defended their effort to produce a messy, complex story that defies the black-andwhite conventions of fighting enemies like Nazis or terrorists

But in Russia, the portrayal of its soldiers as over-the-top villains has earned rebukes from state-owned media, sparked calls for boycotts and prompted live-streamers to pull out of promotional deals with publisher Activision.

Ilya Davydov, an influential Russian gamer with nearly half a million Twitch subscribers, said he signed a promotion deal with Activision Russia to live-stream the game over six months.

But on Oct. 25, timed with the release of the game, he backed out two hours before he was scheduled for his first campaign live-stream, following a look at the missions.

"I realized that I did not want to show such content on my channel, since the story campaign was filled with outrageous moments that presented Russia and the Russian army as war criminals," Davydov, who also goes by Maddyson, told The Washington Post by email.

Russia has increasingly used popular culture as a channel to both defend itself and recast its image on the world stage. Staterun media slammed HBO's "Chernobyl" as Western propaganda, prompting a network to produce a series that places blame on the U.S. for the disaster. according to the Moscow Times. Part of Davydov's agreement.

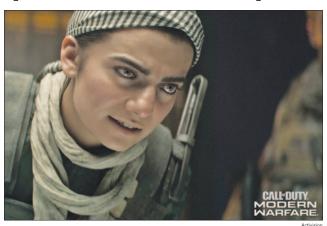
he said, was to not mention the "No Russian" mission from 2009's Modern Warfare 2 release. That mission let players partake in a Russian terrorist attack in an

It prompted blowback for Activision, which removed the mission from Russian versions of the game, which at the time was available on PC.

Other streamers followed suit and pulled out of their deals, Davydov said.

Kirill Kleimenov, the anchor of flagship, pro-Kremlin Channel One, mocked the game days

"Why are these terrible Russians doing these things?" he asked rhetorically, according to NBC News. "Simply because that is their essence. They are by nature not even people, but some



In the video game Call of Duty Modern Warfare, gamers play one mission as a younger version of freedom fighter Farah Karim, who must kill a Russian soldier in her home.

The gamer response to Call of Duty has been swift and merciless, as Russians flooded Metacritic to downvote the game's user score in an effort to blunt its appeal.

The PC rating is below 3 out of 10. The PlayStation 4 score is pulling just above a 3.

The Call of Duty franchise has relied on a host of villains throughout its history, beginning with Nazis in World War II before shifting to amorphous terror groups, extremist splinter cells and space tyrants.

Developer Infinity Ward has said it intended in the newest release to create a morally and politically gray narrative in a fictional country distant from real

That intent was relayed to promoters like Davydov, he said.

But "there is no 'gray moral-ity' in the game," he said. "SAS soldiers and CIA operatives do not shoot women (unless they are holding weapons) or children, un-like Russian soldiers."

Infinity Ward and publisher Activision did not return requests for comment.

In the game, players assume the role of a CIA operative and Farah, both as a young girl and later as a militia commander, as they wage a guerrilla campaign against Russian occupiers in Urzikstan, a mash-up of Syria, Afghanistan and Chechnya.

Later in the game it's revealed that the Russian commander has gone rogue, and players fight alongside some Russians to resolve the campaign.

But that appears to have done little to diminish anger over the game's earlier missions and Infinity Ward's decision to lift real incidents of U.S. military operations, then reimagine them as Russian massacres.

In one mission, the game's

characters reference a mass killing known as the "highway of death" where Russians bombed fleeing civilians.

That term is already well known from the Gulf War's infa-mous "Highway of Death." Late in the 1991 war, U.S. warplanes pounded the head and tail of an tary tanks and confiscated civilian vehicles fleeing from Kuwait

back into Iraq.
The sorties lasted for hours, with images of burned out husks of vehicles and charred bodies seen around the world - except for the U.S. initially, following widespread self-censorship of of a man burned through to his

The targets were "basically just sitting ducks," one squadron commander said. Then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell was concerned the mission appeared like "wanton killing" and the violence so one-sided that it was "un-American" to pile on.

The game also features a num-ber of civilian executions and indiscriminate bombing of civilians reminiscent of Russian air campaigns in Syria that have killed many people.

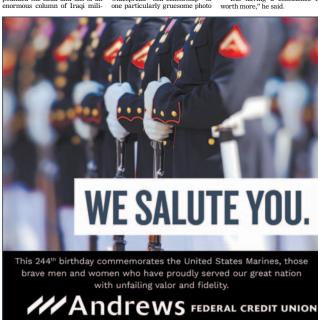
U.S. forces have killed scores of noncombatants on modern battlefields, such as the 2014 strike on a Doctors Without Borders hospi tal in Afghanistan that killed 30 people and numerous airstrikes in Iraq and Syria targeting the Islamic State.

Taylor Kurosaki, the game's narrative director, defended the game's twist on history, suggesting one of the most infamous moments of the late 20th century could be interpreted from elsewhere

"I think you could probably find many instances of the words 'highway of death' being used in a lot of cases," he told Gamespot.

Davydov suggested the game should be banned in Russia, and in a scorched earth tweetstorm, said he refused the payout of more than a million rubles, or more than \$15,700.

"But having a conscience is



# Iraq port closes after briefly reopening

By Qassim Abdul-Zahra Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi security killing six protesters as they were trying to remove barriers blocking their march in central Baghdad, while in the south, demonstrators forced the closing of the country's main port, hours after services had resumed following days of closure, officials said.

Demonstrators have been trying to reach the Green Zone, which houses government offices and foreign embassies.

Along with the six killed, at least 41 protesters were wounded as security forces fired live rounds and tear gas to disperse the march in downtown's Rashid Street, where the central bank is located, security and medical officials said.

The protesters were trying to remove barriers near two bridges that lead to the west bank of the Tigris River. Now all bridges leading to the Green Zone have been blocked by security forces.

Later, a security official said more reinforcements have been added to the entrances leading to the Green Zone. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. Tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets since last month in the capital and across the largely Shitie south to demand sweeping political change. The protesters complain of widespread corruption, a lack of job opportunities and poor basic services, including regular power cuts despite Iraq's vast oil reserves. More than 250 people have been killed since the unrest erupted on Oct. 1.

Protesters have blocked roads to raise pressure on the government. A similar tactic is being used in Lebanon's ongoing antigovernment demonstrations.

In southern Iraq, the reopening of the Umm Qasr port, which houses a vital oil terminal and is an entry point for food and basic goods, came a day after the military called on the protesters to stop blocking roads and ports. It said the blockages had cost Iraq \$6 billion, and vowed to arrest those responsible.

Thursday afternoon, protesters returned, burning tires and blocking the road to the port. Trucks came to a standstill and the port shut down again.

Iraq's leaders have promised reforms and early elections, but the process they laid out could take months.



HADI MIZBAN/AF

Riot police fire tear gas to disperse anti-government protesters gathering on the al-Shuhada bridge in central Baghdad on Thursday.





















Military can attend the conference for FREE (saving \$500)

#### WORLD

# **Ex-lawmaker: Corbyn unfit to lead**

Associated Pres

第3種郵便物設可

LONDON — A former member of the Labour Party's inner circle urged the public on Thursday to vote for Conservative Prima Minister Boris Johnson in Britain's Dec. 12 election, saying that Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn is "unfit" to lead the country due to anti-Semitism.

Ian Austin, one of former Prime Minister Gordon Brown's closest allies, told the BBC that the Labour Party has been poisoned by "anti-Jewish racism" under Corbyn's leadership. Austin left the party in February over its handling of an anti-Semitism scandal.

"There's only two people who can be prime minister on Dec. 13 — Jeremy Corbyn or Boris Johnson," Austin told the BBC. "And I think Jeremy Corbyn is unfit to lead our country."

Austin's startling interview came a day after deputy Labour leader Tom Watson, who has often clashed with Corbyn, announced he was stepping down. The two actions underscore the unease many Labour lawmakers have with Corbyn's left-wing views, his leadership and his ambivalence over Britain's ties to the European Union.

Since he took charge in 2015, Corbyn has moved Labour further to the left and away from the center ground staked out by former Prime Minister Tony Blair.

The Jewish Chronicle newspaper, meanwhile, used a rare front-page editorial Thursday to urge non-Jewish voters in Britain to reject Corbyn's bid for power because of what it called his dangerous anti-Semitism. The newspaper said it had hoped Corbyn's attitudes would change when he became party leader but said he had instead turned a blind eye toward anti-Jewish statements by other party members.

"We believe that the overwhelming majority of British people abhor racism," the newspaper said. "We ask only that, when you cast your vote, you act on that."

All 650 seats in the House of Commons are up for grabs in the Dec. 12 election, chosen by 46 million voters in the country's first December election in 96 years.

Johnson pushed hard for the vote, which is coming more than two years early, after Parliament thwarted his plans to have Britain leave the EU on Oct. 31. Johnson hopes his Conservatives can win the vote, then pass his Brexit divorce plan and get the country out of the 28-nation bloc by the next Brexit deadline on Jan. 31.



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/A

#### **Soviet memories**

A Russian soldier dressed in a Red Army World War II winter uniform stands amid Soviet-era flags as he waits to take part in a reconstruction of a WWII-era parade in Moscow's Red Square on Thursday.

## South Korea deports 2 North Koreans who fled after killing 16

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — In an extremely unusual case, South Korea deported two North Korean fishermen on Thursday after finding they had killed 16 other crew members on their boat and

then fled to South Korean waters, Seoul officials said.

The two North Koreans, both men in their 20s, were captured in their boat south of the countries' eastern sea border last Saturday, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry. It said a South Korean investigation later found the two had killed 16 colleagues, including the captain.

South Korea has a policy of accepting North Koreans who want to resettle in the South to avoid political oppressions and economic poverty at home. It is the first time that South Korea has deported any North Korean national who has come to South Korea since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, according to the Unification Ministry, which deals with North Korean affairs.

Ministry spokesman Lee Sang-

min said South Korea decided to expel the two fishermen to North Korea because they were "heinous criminals" who could not be recognized as refugees under international laws. Lee said the two were sent back through the Koreas' land border.





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#### **BUSINESS/WEATHER**

# China, US to ease some tariffs as talks progress

By Joe McDonald Associated Press

BEIJING — Beijing and Washington have agreed to reduce some punitive tariffs on each other's goods as talks on ending heir trade war progress, a Chinese spokesman said Thursday, removing a possible stumbling block to a settlement.

The agreement came during talks aimed at working out details of a "Phase 1" deal announced Oct. 12. Financial markets were rattled by reports China was pushing for tariffs to be lifted, which raised the possibility of a breakdown in talks.

Negotiators agreed to a "phased cancellation" of tariff hikes if talks progress, said a Commerce Ministry spokesman, Gao Feng.

"If the two sides achieve a 'Phase 1' agreement, then based on the content of that agreement, tariffs already increased should be canceled at the same time and by the same rate," Gao said at a news briefing.

As for the size of reductions, Gao said that would depend on the agreement.

Governments of the two biggest global economies have raised tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods in the fight over

Netherlands

Change in price

EUROPE GAS PRICES

\$3,327

\$3,823

+5.3 cents

\$3.237



MARK SOUPERI DEIN/AD

Chinese Ministry of Commerce spokesman Gao Feng said Thursday that Washington and Beijing have agreed to a "phased cancellation" of tariff hikes as a condition of progress in trade talks.

\$2,659

\$2.689

+1.0 cents

+1.0 cents

China's trade surplus and technology ambitions.

That weighs on trade worldwide and threatens to depress global economic growth that already is showing signs of slowing.

Change in price

Change in price

Change in price

Guam Change in price

South Korea

Okinawa

\$3,325

\$4.043

\$3.235

\$4.030

\$3.486 +1.5 cents

\$3.567 +1.5 cents The Oct. 12 agreement was modest and details have yet to be put on paper but it was welcomed as a sign of progress toward ending the trade war.

President Donald Trump

\$3.399

PACIFIC GAS PRICES

\$3.129

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade

agreed to postpone a planned tariff hike while lower-level officials hammered out details.

Trump said China agreed to

buy up to \$50 billion of American farm goods. Beijing has yet to confirm the scale of its commitment.

News reports said Beijing wants 15% tariffs imposed in September on \$125 billion of Chinese imports removed before it will

make a formal commitment.
There had been no indication
whether Trump might agree,
which raised the possibility of another breakdown in negotiations.

China's imports of American soybeans and other goods tumbled 26.4% in the first nine months of this year following tariff hikes and orders to importers to find other suppliers.

The Oct. 12 agreement helped to ease financial market jitters, but the two sides have yet to report progress on major disagreements over technology and other irritants following 13 rounds of talks.

Trump and Xi were due to meet at this month's gathering of Asia-Pacific leaders in Chile but that event was canceled due to

protests there.

That dampened hopes a face-to-face meeting might produce

MARKET WATCH

Nov. 6, 2019
Dow Jones
Industrials
27, 492,56

Nasdaq
composite
8,410,63

Standard & 2.16
3,076,78

Russell
2000
1,589,54

progress. But U.S. officials say the two governments are looking for a different location.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said this week any "Phase 1" agreement would be general and cover trade in specific areas such as soybeans and liquefied natural gas.

More complicated issues would be tackled in later negotiations, Ross said.

He gave no indication whether rolling back tariffs was a possibility at this stage.

\$1 1374

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates
Euro costs (Nov. 8)......
Dollar buys (Nov. 8)....
British pound (Nov. 8)...
Japanese yen (Nov. 8)...
South Korean won (Nov. 8).

Commercial rates Bahrain (Dinar).....

Canada (Dollar)	1.3165
China (Yuan)	6.9768
Denmark (Krone)	6.7538
Egypt (Pound)	16.1454
Euro	\$1.1064/0.9039
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8265
Hungary (Forint)	300.53
Israel (Shekel)	3.4924
Janan (Yen)	109.17
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3037
Norway (Krone)	9.0933
Philippines (Peso)	50.47
Poland (Zloty)	3.85
Poland (Zloty) Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3576
South Korea (Won)	1.154.47
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9937
Thailand (Baht)	30.35
Turkey (Lira) (Military exchange rates	5.7336
(Military exchange rates a	are those
available to customers at	military banking
facilities in the country of	
for Japan, South Korea, G	
Netherlands and the Unite	ed Kingdom. For
nonlocal currency exchar	
purchasing British pound	s in Germany),
check with your local mili	tary banking
facility. Commercial rates rates provided for referen	are interpank
currency. All figures are for	
to one dollar, except for th	or eight currencies
which is represented in d	ellere to nound
and the ouro, which is dol	Jare-to-ouro

For the week of Nov. 9-15	Russell 2000	-10. 1,589
WEATHER OUTLOOK		

Diesel \$3.119

\$3,119

\$3.149

#### FRIDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST KAZAKHSTAN RUSSIA UZBEKISTAN GEORGIA AZERBALJAN TURKEY Caspian TURKMENISTAN Kabul 🚣 60/34 AEGHANISTAN. 81/56• IRAN Kandahar 65/39 • (1 ~ PAKISTAN City 83/80 • QA Riyadh Doha OMAN SAUDI ARABIA Arabian Sea VEMEN Dibouti 89/74 Gulf of Aden





Drimo rato

30-year bond

Federal funds market rate... 3-month bill ......

Story on Page 24 Review on Page 25

How he

learned

to stop

worrying and love.

OK, writer-director Mike Flanagan didn't get Stephen King to drop his

#### veekend: gadgets



ThredUp employee Willie Walton hangs clothing on a three-tiered conveyor system March 12 at a sorting facility in Phoenix. A slew of websites and apps have sprung up to act as virtual thrift stores.

# **Opening clothing options**

## Online thrift stores provide more ways to score deals

By Tali Arbel Associated Press

's not just eBay anymore. A slew of websites and apps act as virtual thrift stores for vintage devotees, deal hunters and those just looking to unload stuff they don't want anymore.

These sites have proliferated as the recession of a decade ago and the slow comeback in wages since then dramatically altered how people shop. Discounters like T.J. Maxx have been sweeping up, while many traditional retailers have shrunk. gone bankrupt or disappeared. The stigma of "used" has fallen away, and many now shop knowing full well they can sell their pieces later and get some money back. Some consider buying used clothes online a more eco-conscious approach to trends.

There's a range to the Goodwills and consignment stores of the internet. Some cater to kids or young adults; some are specifically for high-end fashion; some are a freefor-all Online stuff may be more expensive than at an actual thrift store, especially when you add in shipping costs. But in many cases, it's also easier to find stuff — no dusty racks, no piles of clothing, and you can search for a brand name and item without leaving your couch. There's often room to negotiate price.

The best sites create an experience for shoppers that's not only easier to navigate than an actual thrift store but better than going to a traditional store and buying something new (at full price), said Anita Balchandani, a McKinsey partner.

It's hard to determine how big the used-clothing market is, but you can see increasing consumer interest in it due to the growing number of companies engaged in it, said Balchandani, who is co-author of a report predicting that consumers will use more "pre-owned" or rented clothing, a la Rent the Runway's model of renting out clothes to its subscribers.

The best-known online marketplace that connects individual sellers and buyers is eBay. But sites built for different purposes also function as bargain-hunting middlemen. You can list your wares on neighborhood app Nextdoor, Craigslist and Facebook's marketplace. In these cases, you're typically limited by geography as these sites mostly connect locals, pointed out Kathy Kristof, editor of the SideHusl website that gives tips on gig jobs. Some people also use Facebook's groups function, dedicated to specific brands, and ship to each other across the country. Etsy also is more wideranging

Fraud protections vary on these platforms. Etsy and eBay have a others, it may be free to post listings. but that means there is no mediator when things go wrong.

On some sites, sellers manage their own "closets." They can try to develop a personal following by using social media to promote themselves and ingratiate themselves to buyers by enclosing thank-you notes with purchases.

"A lot of my sales come solely from Instagram," said Haley Gibbs, 24, who resells clothes that she picks up from thrift stores in Minneapolis, where she lives. She sells on Poshmark, a site that's a grab-bag of styles and prices. She sends handwritten notes to her buyers, whom she considers a supportive community that helped her transition to selling full-time.

The whole look and feel of Depop, an app popular with teens and young adults, is reminiscent of Instagram, complete with stylized posts by wannabe influencers. Other sites cater to parents of young children, like Kidizen. It's a market that makes particular sense for used clothing, since kids grow so fast.

For those focused on high-end items, like deluxe watches, designer garments and gently used handbags that cost hundreds or even thousands of dollars, a model like TheRealReal guarantees that the merchandise is authentic. The company's employees, not individual sellers, sets prices and the site takes a hefty cut - it can be over half of the selling price. But buyers are able to trust that a Hermes scarf is actually Hermes

Reselling and refurbishing used clothes is attracting so much attention that some resale sites are striking partnerships with retail names more than a century old. J.C. Penney and Macy's are working with ThredUP, which operates similarly to TheRealReal in that a customer buys from the middleman, not from another individual. (ThredUP does not have the same singular high-end focus, though.) Neiman Marcus has an arrangement with Fashionphile, in which it owns a minority stake There's a plan for customers to be able to sell their old handbags and accessories to Fashionphile inside Neiman Marcus' luxury department

#### GADGET WATCH

## Portable projector tiny, yet powerful

BY GREGG ELLMAN Tribune News Service

t wasn't that long ago that you needed a big, clunky projector with a complex setup to project a movie outdoors. No longer. Nebula's (a sub-brand of Anker) Capsule Max, about the size of an oversized soda can, is simple to operate. The small, portable projector can be a mainstay at your own home or dropped into your backpack to take to a friend's house for movie

The high-quality 200 ANSI lumen portable will project up to a rectangular 100-inch picture with what is described on the product website as a vividly detailed HD image with a 1280 x 720p resolution in a 16:9 aspect

Everything in the setup instructions is pretty straightforward. But there are a bunch of settings and choices during the setup and play modes, which are clearly explained in the manual

Using a big sheet of white background paper as my screen, I was impressed with the quality and how quickly I had the Capsule Max working right out of

ond autofocus and keystoning technology, which in a nutshell gives you a sharp plus/minus 40 degrees, and it worked great. However, be on as level a surface as possible when setting up a



keep the distance between the Nebula Capsule Max and the projection surface between 23 inches and 121 inches to get a projection

image between 20 and 100 inches. Android 8.1 is the operating system, which enables you to have access to streaming services such as Hulu, Netflix or YouTube. The instructions point out that copyrighted content from Hulu, Netflix and similar services can't be mirrored or screencast. Instead, just

download it and use the apps directly. You can also connect devices with digital content through USB or HDMI. I played a few TV shows from a USB flash drive and also noticed how easy it was to view photo albums. With Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n/ac) and Bluetooth 4.2 built-in, Airplay and other wireless connections and screen mirroring can be used.

The free Nebula companion app (iOS and Android) gives you easy access to streaming services and lets you control your selections or use the included wireless remote, which has control for volume and selections, allows you navigate on-screen menus and gives you easy access to mouse key mode.

The bottom has a tripod thread, which I tested since my tripod has a built-in level. No problems there.

The rounded projector has the lens on the front and controls for powering it on or off, Bluetooth connections and input ports on the backside. Both the power and Bluetooth have LED indicator lights, Volume, navigation and other controls are on the top.

Inside the Capsule Max is a great-sounding 8-watt speaker, which can also be used as a standalone speaker in Bluetooth speaker mode. If you prefer personal, external speakers or headphones they can be connected with a 3.5 mm audio cable into the AUX port or via Bluetooth. The remote has quick and easy controls to enter Bluetooth speaker mode

You'll have about four hours of playtime from 9,700mAh 3.7V internal battery (a little less when using it on Wi-Fi), and a power supply is included. The lamp should give you plenty of viewing with 30,000 hours of

Online: seenebula.com; \$399.49

#### WEEKEND: MOVIES



By Ryan Faughnder and Wendy Lee Los Angeles Times

etflix has made expensive quasi-blockbusters like "Bright," acclaimed Oscar fare such as "Roma" and a multitude of romantic comedies and Christmas movies. But the streaming giant has never released anything quite like "The Irishman," a 3½-hour, \$159-million crime epic from one of the lions of cinema, Martin Scorsese.
Opening in select theaters in Los

Opening in select theaters in Los Angeles and New York on Friday, the sprawling drama marks the highest profile film debut yet for the streaming giant, which has made movies a key part of its streaming business after years of disrupting the television industry.

For Netflix film chief Scott Stuber, who joined the firm more than two years ago, the Scorsese picture is part of a mission to prove that the streamer—widely seen as an outsider and, by some, an enemy of traditional Hollywood—can make movies that stand up among studio giants.

"The Irishman," which tells the story of hit man Frank Sheeran, comes with serious gangster flick pedigree. Robert De Niro reunites with the "Taxi Driver" auteur to play Sheeran, while Al Pacino stars as notorious union boss Jimmy Hoffa and Joe Pesci plays Mafioso Russell Bufalin.

"For us the most satisfying thing is an artist like (Scorsese), and all these incredible actors, making this film that we're all proud of, and will hopefully be a big event to audiences all over the world," Stuber said.

Beyond the prestige factor, "The Irishman" is part of a larger push into quality filmmaking that Netflix hopes will draw subscribers to its service as it faces an onslaught of competition from studios that have been creating cinema since the early days of the art form.

Walt Disney Co. is poised to launch its Disney+ service Nov. 12 with a huge catalog of Marvel, Star Wars and Pixar movies, along with its vault of animated classics. Warner/Media or Tuesday unveiled its ambitious plans for HBO Max, which will be the streaming home of DC superhero films, the Lord of the Rings franchise and classic movies from the Warner Bros. and MGM libraries.

As competitors encroach on its turf, Netflix is set to lose much of the older film and TV content studios supplied to the service. As popular licensed material like "Friends" and "The Office" leaves Netflix, the company will have to rely more on its in-house content, including film. To that end, the company is releasing 18 movies this quarter—a company record in terms of size and scope for its film releases—including the Eddie Murphy vehicle "Dolemite Is My Name" and the upcoming Michael Bay action movie "6 Underground."

"At the end of the day filmmakers want their films to be seen, their work to be out there in the culture, and that happens on Netflix better than anywhere in the world," Netflix Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos said in an recent interview with The Times.

Some analysts worry that Netflix's spending levels are unsustainable. The company is expected to spend \$15 billion on content this year, fueled by growing long-term debt. But longtime Netflix bull Rich Greenfield, a partner at New York-based research firm LightShed Partners, said the company's movie stratezy adds more value to

the platform and should help Netflix retain customers, even as the market gets more crowded with lower-priced services.

"It's going to allow Netflix to not only increase engagement with the Netflix service, but it's also going to allow them a lot of pricing power over the long term," Greenfield said of Netflix's movie slate.

Despite the influx of competitors, the company remains confident in its strategy of attracting top-tier filmmakers by promising high levels of creative freedom and by being willing to take risks. Netflix recently cited three films as "early Oscar front-runners". Noah Baumbach's "Marriage Story," featuring Scarlett Johansson and Adam Driver, "The Two Popes," starring Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce; and "The Irishman."

A bold claim, to be sure, but one that serves Netflix's aim to prove itself as a bona fide studio.

The Irishman" will be a major test of Netflix's evolving movie strategy, which has faced resistance from theater chains that are accustomed to long, exclusive windows for Hollywood movies before they're available for home viewing. "The Irishman" will be available for streaming Nov. 27, four weeks after it debuts in limited theatrical release. The average big studio movie gets a nearly three-month theatrical window. Netflix has also ruffled feathers by not releasing box office figures for its movies, bucking a standard practice among the studios. After Alfonso Cuaron's "Roma" won four Oscars this year, the film academy faced calls to restrict awards consideration for streaming

movies. Amazon Studios, in contrast, has largely conformed to standard theatrical practices, though its movies have struggled.

Many observers expected Netflix to secure a longer window for "The Irishman," given Scorsese's stature as a cinema giant accustomed to getting the big-screen treatment. But Netflix was unable to reach a compromise and major chains including AMC Theatres rejected the film.

By any measure, "The Irishman" was a major risk. The movie, based on the 2004 nonfiction book "I Heard You Paint Houses," was previously in development for years at Viacon Inc.'s Paramount Pictures, but the studio grew worried about the ballooning costs and allowed Scorsese to shop it elsewhere, according to a person familiar with the matter who was not authorized to comment. The film required new technology, developed by Industrial Light & Magic, to dramatically de-age De Niro and the other actors without intrusive motion-capture techniques.

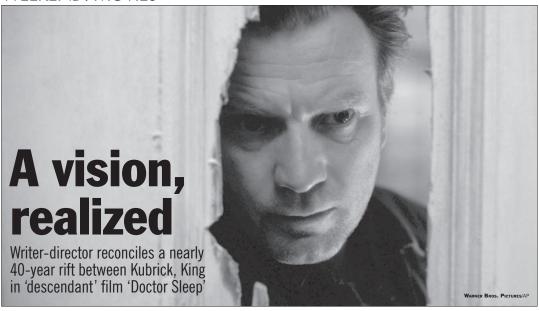
Netflix was willing to foot the bill. Stuber and Sarandos were wowed by ILM test footage in which De Niro, 76, re-created a scene from "Goodfellas," portraying his much younger self with the age-defying tech.

Stuber, a former Universal Pictures executive, stressed that Netflix must continue to attract quality directors and producers in order to build its film library from the ground up. For example, Netflix in August secured a film and TV deal with "Game of Thrones" producers David Benjoff and D.B. Weiss.

"When you're starting from scratch, and you don't have a library where you can remake 'Charlie's Angels,' and you don't have things like Marvel or DC, you have to build off great filmmakers, unique stories and movie stars,' he said. 'And we've been building that place.'

As new streaming services from Disney and HBO threaten its territory, Netflix is betting big on original prestige films such as "The Irishman."

#### WEEKEND: MOVIES



By LINDSEY BAHR Associated Press

ilmmaker Mike Flanagan knew his vision to fuse Stanley Kubrick's "The Shining" with Stephen King's 2013 sequel "Doctor Sleep" would be a hard sell with the author. King's disdain for the 1980 adaptation is well-known and has not abated with

"No, no," Flanagan said, shaking his head with a defeated laugh. "He has not eased up.

Even so, Kubrick's imagery is all over "Doctor Sleep." which is centered on an adult Danny Torrance, played by Ewan McGregor. Yet somehow the film has already gotten the stamp of approval from both King and the Kubrick estate.

And it's all thanks to Flanagan, who wrote, directed and edited "Doctor Sleep," and had been wrestling with the paradox of both being a "King fanatic" and worshiping the film since he was a kid.

"I always had this ache," Flanagan said. When he picked up "Doctor Sleep," the words were King's but the images that popped in his head were Kubrick's. But then he started thinking about how he could reconcile the two, and he and his producer set out on a years-long journey to make that happen.

Warner Bros. had the movie rights to the book, which was already in development with a different writer. But by the time Flanagan got in the door, with an adaptation of King's "Gerald's Game" under his belt, the studio was open to his take, which would involve a pretty significant change from the novel: Going back to the Overlook Hotel.

When he first asked King for permission to meld the book and Kubrick's film, the author said no. But then he explained one scene he'd been dreaming up - set in the hotel at the bar — that he thought would address King's primary criticism that the film didn't do justice to the arc of the Torrance family. Suddenly, King's answer changed to "go ahead."

Not only was the author supportive, but



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AF

"Doctor Sleep" writer-director Mike Flanagan, center, and actors Rebecca Ferguson, left, and Ewan McGregor pose for a portrait to promote their film.

the Kubrick Estate was too. They offered access to original footage (Flanagan ended up using three shots: One of an island in a canyon and two of a car driving up the winding mountain road) as well as the original blueprints for the sets. The "Doctor Sleep" team would use these to reconstruct places like The Gold Room and The Colorado Lounge on a soundstage in Atlanta that had everyone downright

gildy.
"I just started grinning. It's like walking into your own memory," Flanagan said.
"The hope was that if we could transfer a percentage of that to the viewer, then this is a movie worth making."

Some cast and crew even got sticky fingers. Flanagan walked off with an ax and a few other things. And Rebecca Ferguson, who plays the villain "Rose the Hat," swiped five pages of paper from the desk that say, "All work and no play makes "I have them all framed at home," she

said with a devilish grin. But knowing the original film also made it a little challenging when they veered into straight homage. McGregor forced himself to "forget" what he knows Jack Nicholson did in a scene where he, as Danny, comes upon the door that Jack Torrance burst through with an ax and looks through the opening.

"There's no way you can not know as an actor what the shot is; it's reminding the audience of that moment in 'The Shining," McGregor said. "But I don't want to know that as Danny. I'm thinking about being Danny at this moment in time.

Although the re-creations were memorable for everyone involved, the film is more than a "Shining" tribute: It's a character study about addiction and trauma So when McGregor sat down to meet with Flanagan, who was editing his

similarly-themed Netflix series "The

Haunting of Hill House," he didn't want to talk about "The Shining." He wanted to talk about recovery, and he found himself opening up to Flanagan in ways he didn't

"I've lived sober for many, many years, so I've gotten my head straight with alcoholism," McGregor said. "But I've never explored alcoholism (in a role). ... So to tackle something that is personal to me like that, I thought well, here's somebody I trust and I like. It seemed like a good combination."

The film picks up with adult Danny Torrance at rock bottom and follows him as he tries to get sober while also helping out a teenage girl, Abra (newcomer Kyliegh Curran), who shares his "shine" and has attracted a group of RV-dwelling "quasi-immortals." Led by Rose the Hat, the group feeds on the "steam" held by those with Danny and Abra's unique abilities.

Ferguson also got to play around a bit with her character, whose look in the film — a little Stevie Nicks and a little Slash - deviates drastically from King's descriptions.

"I saw hippie because I guess it's my generalization of caravan campers, and it's something I've always wanted to do,' Ferguson said. "I think I was living out my own Woodstock, hippie thing through Rose the Hat."

King is on board with all of it. He's even tweeted praise for Flanagan's direction and storytelling abilities

'You'll like this if you liked THE SHIN-ING, but you'll also like it if you liked SHAWSHANK. It's immersive," King wrote on Twitter.

Flanagan doesn't necessarily like to think of his film as a "sequel" to "The Shining." The idea makes him more than a little anxious

"I looked at it more as a descendant. And it's like if this is a descendant of 'The Shining,' then it's got the DNA of its parents, who are Stanley Kubrick and

Stephen King," Flanagan said. "It wants to honor those parents and celebrate them, but it also has to find its own way and make its own identity."

#### WEEKEND: MOVIES

# 'Doctor Sleep' can't escape 'The Shining'

By Katie Walsh Tribune News Service

hat is the hold that "The Shining" has over us, culturally? It's the popularity of Stephen King, indeed, but it's also, specifically, Stanley Kubrick's 1980 film. The surreal and disturbing imagery, the unforgettable performances, and the film's hypnotic rhythms have woven their way into our collective unconscious and have gotten profoundly stuck there. The cultural grip of "The Shining" is such that it has a stranglehold on Mike Flanagan's adaptation of "Doctor Sleep," a sequel of sorts, and nearly chokes the life out of it.

King's take on what happened after "here's Johnny" on that snowy mountain is a fascinating follow-up involving an alcoholic Danny Torrance learning to harness his "shine" for good, helping a young girl fight a terrifying death cult, the True Knot. That's all present in Flanagan's film, and it's the most engrossing aspect, comprising the first two-thirds of this 2½-hour film. It's when Flanagan's "Doctor Sleep" is dragged back to the Overlook Hotel that this adaptation loses consciousness

Ewan McGregor stars as the grown-up Danny Torrance (Alex Essoe and Henry Thomas briefly play his parents, Wendy and Jack, or versions of them, and bear incredible resemblance to both Shelly Duvall and Jack Nicholson). Dan's placed his demons in their mental lockboxes and hit the bottle hard, like Dad. Disturbing



WARNER BROS. PICTURES/AP

Years after the events of "The Shining," the now-adult Danny Torrance (Ewan McGregor) joins forces with a similarly gifted teen to battle dark forces in "Doctor Sleep."

psychic visions drive him to a small town in New Hampshire, where he seeks solace in Alcoholics Anonymous, and a new friend, Billy (Cliff Curtis).

Though his darker thoughts are quelled in sobriety, he can't fully hide his "shine," and working in hospice care, he and a psychic cat bring solace to patients at the end of their lives. But it's when a young girl, Abra (Kyliegh Curran), with a powerful shine, reaches out to him that Dan is put to the test. She's witnessed the True Knot abduct and torture a young boy (Jacob Tremblay), feeding off his "steam," his psychic soul of sorts.

There's such a rich vein of original mythology to be tapped with the True Knot, and Flanagan does flesh out their world with intriguing detail. Rebecca Ferguson is entrancing as cull leader Rose the Hat, drawing the most vulnerable, shiny, steamy prey into her trap. Their abduction and feeding rituals are disturbingly horrific and terrifying, especially considering the young victims. But Flanagan manages to build motivation and understanding (not empathy) for the True Knot, which makes the stakes that much more interesting and complex. Ferguson and Flanagan make Rose the Hat one of the best horror villains of recent years.

What makes "Doctor Sleep" so delightfully chewy are its many complex women, from Rose and her terrifying accomplice Snakebite (Emily Alyn Lind), to the powerful Abra, a girl with a shine so bright, she can astral project. Though "Doctor Sleep" takes its time ramping up and winding down, a climatic sequence with Abra and Rose facing off, climbing into each other's minds, is fascinating, and Flanagan visually executes with creativity and clarity.

It's just that when "Doctor Sleep" ends up back at the Overlook for another "Greatest Hits of "The Shining" that the Ambien hits. For all the fresh originality of the first half, why do we have to retack Gubrick's film again' Leashing the film adaptation so closely to Kubrick's film is a missed opportunity for this story to realize the full mystical potential promised. "Doctor Sleep": Is rated R for disturbing and violent content, some bloody images, language, undity and drug use. Running time: 151 minutes.

#### 'Last Christmas' a heartfelt rom-com misfire

By MICHAEL PHILLIPS Chicago Tribune

here's a massive spoiler lurking in the bushes of the super-pushy holiday picture "Last Christmas," and it's that Rosebud is the sled! Wait, sorry, "Citizen Kane," wrong movie. "Sovlent Green" is people!

Let's call "Last Christmas" a whoopsie-daisy with a big heart and a puddin' head, which is a bit tragic, since it's directed by Paul Peig of "Bridesmaids" and "Spy," and co-written and co-starring Emma Thompson, whose brilliant talents have graced and elevated movie after movie. It stars two skillful, versatile, likable sweeties, Emilia Clarke of "Game of Thrones" and Henry Golding of "Crazy Rich Asians." That's a start, surely.

It begins in 1999 Yugoslavia, and you probably weren't expecting that. Kate (Clarke) flees her war-torn country to England with her closeted sister (Lydia Leonard), her elusive father (Boris Isakovic) and her oppressive, fatalistic mother (Thompson). With the prologue out of the way and having established Kate's love of George Michael songs, "Last Christmas" skips into the adult Kate's story, about a restless, selfish character in need of a wake-up call. People keep referring to a recent medical crisis in her life; she doesn't seem to be taking care of herself; she's between apartments, and on the rotating-couch

Then, Wham! Just like the George Michael Wham!, she meets dashing, approachable, dreamy Tom (Golding), of whom she's wary because he's so infernally full of sound advice and gentle entreaties to appreciate the world around her. She has been honing her cynicism



Universal Pictures/AP

Henry Golding and Emilia Clarke star in the romantic comedy "Last Christmas."

while working as an elf in a Covent Garden yuletide gift shop. Michelle Yeoh plays the owner, who calls herself Santa, and please excuse me while I arrange a dentist appointment, my teeth are falling out from all the narrative sugar in this lolly of a movie.

The lolly is a series of search-and-destroy-with-kindness-and-understanding missions waged by Tom, targeting Kate, who eventually sees the value in being less of a boozy runaround and more of a homeless shelter volunteer, where Tom works, apparently, and where Kate (an aspiring musical theater performer) puts on a climactic Christmas fundraiser.

Thompson wrote the script with Bryony Kimmings, and like the recent (and infinitely more charming and witty) "Paddington" films, "Last Christmas" argues for a more tolerant and inclusive urban existence for all. The grim clouds of Brexit hang over Kate's emigre parents' heads, and in one scene an angry young white man tells an entire busload of London passengers to go back to where they came from. Feig and company mange this real-world element reasonably well. It's the rest of the dreamy nonsense that grates, from the forced banter to the late-night skating rink excursion to editor Brent White's insanely nervous and jumpy rhythms. The short sharp shock cutting strategy of "Last Christmas" reduces Clarke to a series of overeager reaction shots, while Golding gamely tries to match her stride.

Clarke, among others here, deserves so much better.

"Last Christmas" is rated PG-13 for language and sexual content. Running time: 102 minutes.



Paramount Pictures

## ALSO PLAYING

#### 'Playing with Fire'

When straight-laced fire superintendent Jake Carson (John Cena, above) and his elite team of expert firefighters (Keegan-Michael Key, John Leguizamo and Tyler Mane) come to the rescue of three siblings in the path of an encroaching wildfire, they quickly realize that no amount of training could prepare them for their most challenging job yet — babysitters — in "Playing with Fire." A review of the comedy was not available at press time. The film is rated PG for rude humor, some suggestive material and mild peril. Running time: 95 minutes.

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#### WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES

# 'Luigi's Mansion 3' scares up fall fun

By Christopher Byrd Special to The Washington Post

ario may be the most recognizable mascot in gaming partial to his brother Luigi, probably because he seems like the more conflicted of the two. Whereas Mario is short, round and confident, Luigi is lanky and bumbling — qualities dear to my heart.

heart.
Yet,
despite
my affinity for the
younger
brother
— one of
my go-to's
in "Mario
Kart" — I
haven't
settled my
thumbs
around a
"Laigi's



Mansion" game until recently. I never had a GameCube, for which the original was a launch title, nor the leisure to try its sequel, "Luigifs Mansion: Dark Moon" on the 3DS. Having arrived late to the party, it's taken me some time to acclimate to the ghostbusting and puzzle solving for which the series is known. Although I still find the controls a tad awkward, "Luigifs Mansion 3" strikes me as a diverting fall treat.

As with many Nintendo games, the opening is a prelude to calamity. Things are looking much too relaxed for Luigi, Mario, Princess Peach and the Toads when we set eyes on them on a radiant day. On a bus, they are bound for a hotel whose management has invited them to stay as VIPs. When they arrive at The Last Resort, they are dazzled by the golden hotel's sparkling walls, high ceilings and attractive furnishings.

Still, you'd think that if the place's name didn't give them pause, then the name of its pro-

prietor would. But the crew pay scant attention to Hellen Gravely, whose purplish skin recalls the Evil Queen's attire in Disney's "Snow White." Following her suggestion, the celebrities of the Mushroom Kingdom repair to their individual rooms. Ever the man of culture, Luigi stretches out on his bed, props open a book and immediately falls asleep.

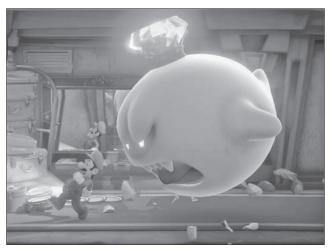
In the middle of the night, Luigi awakens to the scream of Princess Peach. Shivering with fear, he gets out of bed and goes into the hallway where his surroundings have undergone quite the metamorphosis. Wilted, thorny plants lay on the hallway tables along with candles and piles of skulls. Door frames and picture frames are askew and the walls are drably colored and stained with age. Near the elevator, Luigi

confronts Hellen Gravely, who is delighted to tell him that she, in cahoots with his old nem esis King Boo, has trapped his friends in picture frames. To avoid their fate, Luigi takes to his heels and runs back down the hallway, diving into a laundry shoot that deposits him in a hamper on the basement floor. Conveniently, on that same floor is a garage where he finds a Poltergust G-00, the newest model in the line of ghost-vanquishing vacuum cleaners that have been a staple in the series.

Alas, Luigi can't begin exploring other hotel floors because the buttons for the elevator are missing. Only by systematically recovering them from the various ghosts who've pocketed them will he be able to rescue his friends.

"Luigi's Mansion 3" is chock full of silliness. There are newspaper-reading ghosts on toilets, a pesky phantom cat and a number of cute bosses such as a Beethoven-ish apparition who, from the stage of a concert hall, sics dancers, chairs and eventually his own grand piano on Luipi.

With the help of the Poltergust



G-00, Luigi can stun ghosts with a strobe light and suck them up with a nozzle that also has an air-propellant function. A black light on the device can detect ghosts that are hiding as well as otherwise invisible objects. The Poltergust can also shoot a plunger with a rope attached to its end. This allows Luigi to do stuff like open locked closet doors by shooting them with a plunger and using the suction feature to tug on the rope.

The Poltergust's suction and air-propellent features are mapped to the controller's triggers while the strobe light, black light and plunger are mapped to the face buttons. There were a couple of moments where I found this layout a tad cumbersome. Using the plunger's targeting reticule, for example, requires holding down Y on the controller. The reticle's movement, how-

ever, is tied to the right thumbstick. Because of such quirks, I sometimes found myself holding the controller a little awkwardly using my forefinger or middle finger to press down a face button so I could keep my thumb on the analog stick.

Putting aside the rare need for contortions, the puzzles in "Luigi's Mansion 3" are quite good and make ingenious use of Luigi's abilities. I was frequently stumped, though usually not for long. The few times I found myself running in circles. I'd take an extended break and upon returning, usually discover the solution to whatever baffled me fairly quickly. Inevitably, it was never something obtuse, just very clever. As Luigi ascends higher in the elevator, the levels become more intricate. One of my favorite puzzles takes place on a film set where Luigi gets to

play actor and director.

I played a few rounds of the online ScareScraper mode in which a team of Luigis tries to rid a hotel floor of ghosts, or perform other tasks, before a timer runs out. To proceed through the rooms most efficiently, it helps to have a team that pays attention to what rooms have been cleared and are fast to help a fellow Luigi in distress when he gets stuck in a booby trap. I dig co-op multiplayer, so I could imagine dipping into ScareScraper in the

"Luigi's Mansion's 3" is my kind of haunted house — a place that's more funny than scary. For anyone who likes Nintendo games of the Mushroom Kingdom variety, there are many reasons to book a stay.

Platform: Nintendo Switch Online: luigismansion. nintendo.com





Nintendo phot

In "Luigi's Mansion 3," players help Luigi save his friends by solving puzzles and battling boss monsters.

#### WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

#### Europe



By Gregory Broome Stars and Stripes

aking a gingerbread house, much like roasting chest-nuts over an open fire, is a holiday activity that sounds like way more fun than it turns out to

But I'll share with you an activity that is exactly as fun as it sounds: getting in your car, driving to France, visiting Le Palais du Pain d'Epices and returning home with a trunk full of gingerbread.

To save you a trip to Google Translate and/or the trouble of deciphering context clues, Le Palais du Pain d'Epices is the magnificently French way to say "gingerbread palace."

It is an attraction in the small Alsatian village of Gertwiller, just a two-hour drive from the Kaiserslautern Military Community, and features both a tour of a working gingerbread factory and the world's most fragrant gift shop.

I'd have been just as intrigued by a 'chateau du pain d'epices as a palais. In fact, 'palace' struck me as a bit hyperbolic, but that was before I visited. After I'd been there, I was trying to think of a more decadent descriptor than mere palace.

As I approached, the distinctive building popped from its rather mundane provincial surroundings with an unmistakable gingerbread-huef facade. I was already hungry as I parked the car — we hadn't had lunch after the long trip, but I was ready for dessert. Or gingerbread for lunch and dessert.

Next up was a trip through the workshop, which doubles as a museum. The tour delves into the history of gingerbread and its prominent role in Alsatian Christmas tradition before offering windows into the workshop and free samples of the merchandise on the way



out the door.

I tried the free samples, of course, but I hardly needed to. I was going home with a substantial amount of ginger-bread. The gift shop delivered with massive gingerbread hearts, ginger-bread people and animals, gingerbread houses and what looked like just big shapeless masses of gingerbread for us purists who don't need a theme for their gingerbread.

It's possible, of course, to get pretty good gingerbread without leaving Germany, especially in the southwest. But what fun would that be? I recommend clearing your trunk of unnecessary freight, pulling up to Le Palais du Pain d'Epices and stocking up for the winter.

broome.gregory@stripes.com



PHOTOS BY JACQUELINE BROOME/For Stars and Stripes

Le Palais du Pain d'Epices, a gingerbread factory, museum and gift shop in Gertwiller, France, details the history of the tasty holiday treat while offering delicious examples of the form.

#### ON THE QT

#### DIRECTIONS

Address: 144 Route de Strasbourg, 67140 Gertwiller, France. Free parking available outside.

#### TIMES

Open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Open Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. The store and tour are closed Christmas Day and closed for the season after the new year, reopening in mid-February.

#### COSTS

A tour of the workshop costs four euros (\$4.44) for adults and two euros (\$2.22) for children 13 and under. Children under age five enter free.

#### FOOD

Free gingerbread samples are provided, and the gift shop offers much more for purchase.

#### INFORMATION

English-language information is available at lepalaisdupainde-

- Gregory Broome

#### WEEKEND: TRAVEL

#### Europe

# Florence a treat even for well-traveled foodies

seeing for your palate. The tour plan: Start with fresh ingredients and talented cooks, take in a city's personality and seek out a happy dining crowd. Experiencing Italy's cafes, cuisine and wines is a joy, and as the capital of Tuscany, Florence offers a particularly satisfying spread.

Tuscan cuisine is hearty and simple farmer's food: grilled meats, high-quality seasonal vegetables, fresh herbs, prized olive oil and rustic bread. Tuscan riboleta combines these ingredients into a savory bean-and-bread soup. If a dish's name ends with "alla toscana" or "alla fiorentina," that means it's cooked in the Tuscan or Florentine style - usually a preparation highlighting local products.

Restaurant competition in Florence is

fierce, so it's easy to find delicious Tuscan specialties at fair prices - even in the most touristy zones. But for the most authentic ambiance and better-quality meals. I like to hike across the Arno River to the quiet Oltrarno neighborhood. This is where I find the tastiest bistecca alla Fiorentina - thick T-bone steak, generally grilled very rare and lightly seasoned. The best (and most expensive) is from the white Chianina breed of cattle you'll see grazing throughout Tuscany.

But dining out is only one option for foodies. The heart of the food scene in Florence is the trendy Industrial Age, steel-and-glass Mercato Centrale (Central Market). Along with all the must-see museums, this market is one of the great sights in Florence. The ground floor is a thriving edible wonderland of vendors selling meat, fish, produce and other staples to a mostly local clientele. And the upstairs is a bustling food court open late into the evening. I come here to gather fresh mozzarella

cheese, olives, fruit and crunchy bread for

like me need to be discreet — Florence now bans eating on public sidewalks and doorsteps in its historic center (and violators risk a hefty fine).

At the market's tripe stand, it's easy to see that locals eat just about every bit of the cow ... and some bits unique to the



may find it hard to stomach, but Floren tines' favorite quick lunch is a panino (sandwich) of trippa or lampredotto - the lining from the second and fourth stomach of a cow, respectively - slowboiled to tender perfection. Offal sandwiches

originated as an affordable source of protein for working-class Florentines. While on lunch breaks from chipping trapped statues out of blocks of marble Michelangelo would swing by a Florentine market and dig into a bun stuffed with stewed

Most food carts also offer bollito (stewed beef) and the always delicious and easier to stomach — porchetta (roast pork with herbs). No matter what you order watch closely as the food-cart owner pulls the lid off of a gently simmering pot, forks out some tender meat, - if you're lucky — dips the bun in the broth before topping it with spicy and tangy sauces. But if you have the guts ... give trippa a try. It's offal.

Cooking classes are an ideal way to learn a thing or two about this region's prodigious culinary tradition. Classes in Florence range from multiday or multiweek courses for more serious chefs, to two- or three-hour crash courses for



Florence's Mercato Centrale bursts with colorful meats, olives, produce and cheeses perfect for cobbling together a fresh Florentine picnic.

tourists. These are some of my favorite activities in Tuscany, combining a unique Italian experience (learning to cook, say, pasta from scratch) with a satisfying meal, all in just a few hours.

In my experience, the best casual cooking classes are taught in a real kitchen environment (rather than a stuffy classroom or "show" kitchen) and have a spirit of fun and collaboration. Smaller groups allow more personal interaction and hands-on activity. After a couple of hours of cooking, everyone sits down to a hard-earned (if not always flawlessly executed) meal. They'll usually send you on your way with the recipes you prepared that day.

I cap nearly every Italian meal with a gelato-fueled stroll. Italy's most flavorful ice cream - perhaps the world's best is in Florence. I stay away from places with heaping mounds of brightly (artificially) colored gelato and instead look for covered metal tins with muted-hued gelato that's more likely to be homemade. Seasonal flavors are also a good sign. I find the key to gelato appreciation is sampling liberally and choosing flavors that complement each other, like caffe (coffee) and cioccolato (chocolate).

Florence offers a wide array of foodie activities - be brave and dive in. Consider these edible experiences part of your sightseeing duty. Buon appetito!

Rick Steves (ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on pub-lic television and public radio. Email him at rick@ ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

#### TOP TRAVEL PICKS

#### Paris for photographers

Three events in Paris this weekend highlight photography and the means with which to create great pictures.

Paris Photo, running through Nov. 10 at the Grand Palais, presents the best of photography over nearly two centuries. The images displayed here come from about 180 galleries and 33 publishers representing the participation of at least 30 countries. Running parallel to the fair, the "In Paris during Paris Photo" program offers additional photography exhibitions and events throughout the city. Entry goes for 30 euros weekdays and 32 euros on weekends. Online: parisphoto.com

Foto Fever, on through Nov. 10 at the Carrousel du Louvre, is a fair dedicated to the collection of contemporary photography. Some 100 galleries and publishers present the works of 250 photographers hailing from 20 countries. The fair showcases and supports emerging contemporary photography artists. Women make up around 40% of the exhibitors. Guided tours and talks round out the program Adult entry costs 19 euros, while those under 18 enter for free. Online: fotofever.com

The Salon de la Photo presents hobbyists and professionals alike



Karen Bradbury

Read more about things to do in the Europe Traveler blog: stripes.com/blogs/europe-traveler

with the latest technological innovations, from what's new in cameras to the latest in digital imaging techniques. In addition to exhibits, the program includes demonstrations, workshops. classes and discussions. The salon takes places at the Parc des Expositions de la Porte de Versailles through Nov. 10. Adult admission costs 12 euros, and those under 12 enter for free Online: en.lesalondelaphoto.com

#### Carnival season kicks off in Germany At precisely 11:11 a.m. on

the 11th day of the 11th month, Germany's "fifth season," the time leading up to carnival festivities in February or March, gets off to its festive start. The date inspires revelers young and old to dig out their costumes and turn out to celebrate the day. In Mainz, the heart of the action is at the Schillerplatz, where live entertainment on stage follows the announcement. On Nov. 11 in Cologne, up to 70,000 party people will gather to celebrate the opening of the new carnival season on Heumarkt Square, where several popular acts perform throughout the afternoon. The fun carries on in the city's pubs until late into the night. In Duesseldorf, the carnival jester Honneditz awakes and emerges from a giant mustard pot to give the snappy opening speech that marks the opening of the season.

Carnival festivities are bound to be bigger and brighter than ever in Rijeka, Croatia, one of the two European Capitals of Culture in 2020. (The other is Galway, Ireland). The up-andcoming port city will celebrate its title during its annual International Carnival Parade on Feb. 23 next year. Online: rijeka2020. eu/en/program/carnival

#### **Regal Christmas** market settings

Christmas market opening dates seem to come earlier than ever these days. A good case in point: the Christmas market in



Germany gets its "fifth sea off to a festive start on Nov. 11.

London's Leicester Square is up and running as of Nov. 8. This could be the year to up-grade your outing. Here are five

locations to enjoy a market set in a castle or palace: Christmas Fair at Taxinge Castle, Nykvarn, Sweden:

Handmade goods and Swedish culinary specialties are on offer, Nov. 14-17 and 21-24. Kronborg Castle Christmas Fair, Helsingor, Denmark: Arts,

crafts and design and decor are sold from stands in the rooms and halls of the castle, Nov. 29-Dec. 1 and Dec. 6-8

Royal Christmas Market, Hohenzollern Castle, Germany: Exhibitors are set up in the rooms of the castle, Nov. 29-Dec. 1 and Dec. 6-8.

Cochem Castle Christmas, Germany: The story of Jesus birth is presented by live costumed actors accompanied by animals in the castle courtyard.

Charles Dickens market at Drachenburg Castle in Koenigswinter, Germany: Culinary treats and regional products are on sale, and a tour led by Ebenezer Scrooge passes by the three ghosts of Christmas, weekends only, Nov. 30-Dec. 22.

#### Europe's low season a travel opportunity

Consensus holds that what goes for low season in European travel today runs from November through March, with a rise in the lead-up to the Christmas holidays. And while the days are short and often dreary this time of year, it's far from gloom and doom for would-be travelers. Hotel rooms are in ready supply and their prices significantly cheaner and no crowds clog the city squares and museums. Given how overtourism has become a real problem for so many cities, this could be just the time to visit those places worst hit by the phenomenon. Destinations to enjoy in this calmer season could include Amsterdam; Barcelona; Bruges, Belgium; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Paris or Venice.

#### WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

# No pumpkin soup for you

Even if they're out of something, all of the German-style dishes are delicious at Burgschaenke

By Jennifer H. Svan Stars and Stripes

ining recently at Burgschaenke, a German-style restaurant in a small village south of Kaiserslautern, I was disappointed to hear they were out of numpkin soup

It was one of those fall days where I really wanted pumpkin soup, so I pouted briefly before ordering Palatine garlic soup.

It turned out to be a fortuitous choice. Burgschaenke's garlic soup was exactly what I needed.

The smell of garlic preceded the waitress as she walked to my table in the middle of the cozy restaurant with wood-beam ceilings and a large brick fireplace. After the bowl of piping hot, creamy soup that she set down in front of me had cooled enough to eat, I had an Anton Ego moment

- the one where, in the movie "Ratatouille." the humorless food critic tastes Remy the rat's ratatouille for the first time and his eyes just about pop out of his

Unlike Ego, I didn't have a vision of eating my mom's homemade garlic soup as a child - we were a Campbell's soup family but I was utterly content, and the pumpkin soup all but forgot-

Garlic soup is one of many options for soup lovers on Burgschaenke's menu. It's on the regular menu, along with tomato soup with feta cheese, French onion soup with parmesan cheese toast, fish soup goulash soup and French truffle soup with puff pastry. Several reviews I've read raved about the truffle soup, but preparation time is about 25 minutes, so I passed. The pumpkin soup that they'd run out of was a weekly special.

Moving on to the main course, I decided to see just how well this traditional German restaurant did vegetarian fare. I ordered the chili pepper pasta, one of only three vegetarian options.

It turned out to be a delicious combination of roasted pine nuts, crisp sauteed vegetables and thick, buttery noodles with a

spicy kick. The other vegetarian dishes were also tempting: The Berner Roesti, a Swiss potato fritter baked with three types of cheese; homemade cheesy spaetzle with roasted onions; and potato pancakes with apple sauce.



For meat lovers, the menu offerings were plentiful and, in typical German style, dominated by pig. There was the cutlet of Iberico pork (Spanish pigs that eat only acorns, says the menu) served with plum sauce, potato gratin and green beans for 23 euros. Blood sausage and pig's stomach, as well as various schnitzels, might also tempt carnivores

Other meat options include chicken and lamb, and, at the high end of the price range, a double Chateaubriand filet steak for two, for 60 euros.

Seafood eaters can have salmon or, this time of year, Burgschaenke's seasonal offering of mussels, which should be available for another month or so, a server told me in late October. Check the weekly menu, which complements the restaurant's staples, for other fish offerings.

The day I was there, weekly specials included pot-au-feu, which is a French beef stew, with veal cheeks and tongue, vegetables and potatoes; and Arctic char fish with spinach pasta

Prices are a bit on the high side but are backed by the quality of food. An express lunch is only 11.50 euros and includes a trip to the salad bar. It's served Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Burgschaenke in Hohenecken, Germany, offers German, vegetarian and specialty dishes. In warm months, it has outside seating, It's a good place to stop after hiking to the nearby Hohenecken castle.



Burgschaenke's garlic soup was amy and delicious





Burgschaenke serves several vegetarian dishes, including this entree of sauteed vegetables, roasted pine nuts and chili peppers on a bed of noodles.



#### BURGSCHAENKE Location: Schlossstrasse 1,

Kaiserslautern/Hohenecken 67661

Hours: Kitchen is open seven days a week, from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Lunch specials available Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The restaurant is part of a hotel.

Prices: Most main courses range from 10 to 20 euros; a few items go higher. Lunch specials are 11.50 euros. Menu: In German and

English; staff speaks some English. Weekly specials, seasonal specials such as mussels and lunch specials, in addition to the regular menu. Clientele: Mostly Americans

and Germans Dress: Casual Information: Call (+49) (0) 631 56041/351530/56301; or email: in-fo@burgschaenkekl.de. Online: burgschaenke-

Jennifer H. Svan



Above: The interior of Burgschaenke, a traditional German restaurant in Hohenecken, Germany, a small village south of Kaiserslautern, has a warm, cozy atmosphere.

Left: A stone fountain outside the restaurant appears to bear the face of the mascot for the FCK Kaiserslautern men's soccer club.

#### Weekend: travel

#### Europe



#### KNOW & GO

#### DIRECTIONS

The Berlin Wall Memorial is on Bernauerstrasse between the S-Bahn stop Nordbahnhof on the S2/S25 lines and the Bernauerstrasse subway stop on the U2

#### TIMES

The Visitor Center and the Documentation Center with viewing platform are free. They are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. The open-air exhibit and memorial grounds

#### are open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

Entrance to the Visitor Center and the Documentation Center with viewing platform are free.

#### FOOD

There is a small self-service restaurant behind the Documentation Center.

#### INFORMATION

The Berlin Wall Memorial's website is berliner-mauer-gedenks-

taette de/en

Michael Abrams







By MICHAEL ABRAMS Stars and Stripes

hirty years ago on Nov. 9. 1989, the Berlin Wall A remark by East German government spokesman Guenter Schabowski at a news conference that evening sent

first hundreds, then thousands of people to the Wall's east-west border crossings. Schabowski had announced that the government had passed a regulation that would allow

East Germans to travel to the West. It went into effect immediately, he said. For months, thousands of East

Germans had been protesting against their government, wanting more freedoms and the right to travel where they wanted.

In August 1989, hundreds of East Germans crossed from Hungary into Austria at the socalled Pan-European Picnic on the border between the two countries, the first tear in the Iron Curtain that had split Europe since soon after World War II.

With pressure building, the East German government decided to let its citizens travel to the West. By November 9, the dam had burst and an unstoppable flow of people headed for the gates.

Thousands had crossed into West Berlin by midnight, and the wall that had divided the once and present German capital for a little more than 28 years was no more.

Soon after, all border crossings between East and West Germany were open, and less than a year later, on Oct. 3, 1990, East and West Germany were reunified.

That is, more or less, the end of the story.

The beginning was on August 13. 1961, when the East German For more photos of the Berlin Wall Memorial, go to stripes.com/go/wallat30

government began building a barrier to prevent its citizens from fleeing the country.

The Wall surrounded the American, British and French sectors of the city, dividing them from the Soviet sector and splitting Berlin down its center. The inhuman border would separate families and friends for almost three decades.

West-facing windows on buildings near the Wall in East Berlin were bricked up to prevent people from escaping to the western half of the city. Later, buildings close to the Wall were torn down and the Wall itself was modernized, built taller, and had barriers, spotlights, guard towers, watchdogs and more added

to deter people fleeing to the West. That area became known as the "death strip."

The best place to see what life in the shadow of the Wall was like is at the Berlin Wall Memorial on Bernauerstrasse. Its centerpiece - a monument made up of two tall, rusted steel barriers that enclose a section of the original Wall, a guard tower and some of the obstacles a person would encounter trying to escape East Berlin - was unveiled in 1999 for the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Wall.

The memorial has been expanded over the decades. Today, it runs for about a mile along Bernauerstrasse and features a visitor center, a documentation center with a viewing platform, and one of the longest sections of the Berlin Wall that is still standing

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 31** 



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Clockwise from top: Visitors look at the photos that make up the Window of Remembrance at the Berlin Wall Memorial. A path of stone slabs marks where a Stasi tunnel once ran underground from east to west under the Wall. Visitors check out a scale model of the Wall at the Berlin Wall Memorial complex on Bernauer Strasse. The Chapel of the Reconciliation, part of the Berlin Wall Memorial.

#### FROM PAGE 30

Rusted metal poles mark where the Wall once stood along Bernauerstrasse. At irregular intervals, information tablets tell the story of the Wall and the people divided by it.

The most moving part of the complex is the Window of Remembrance, which com-memorates the 136 people who died trying to cross the Wall to freedom. Photos of each person who died, including eight East German border guards, adorn a rust-covered steel wall. Family, friends and visitors often leave flowers or remembrance stones by the pictures.

The first to die Ida Sieckman, succumbed to injuries she suffered when she jumped out of a third-story window to try to escape to the West, nine days after the Wall was built in 1961. The last, Wilfried Freudenberg, perished when his improvised halloon crashed on March 8 1989. The Wall fell just eight months later.

On the facades of buildings abutting the memorial grounds, more large photos tell the story of the Wall and the people it affected. One picture shows an East German soldier jumping over the barbed wire to freedom a famous photo from the 1960s when the Wall was being built.

And on the corner of Ackerstrasse and Bernauerstrasse, an oversized image shows people in the East and the West watching as the Wall is built in 1961

Paths of stone slabs mark where tunnels once ran under the Wall. One was an escape tunnel to the West, while the other was used by the East German secret police, the Stasi, to move agents back and forth between East and West Berlin.

The foundation of one of the houses on Bernauerstrasse that were torn down to keep people from escaping — and to make room for the "death strip" — is visible at another spot.

The Chapel of the Reconcili-ation has been built where the Church of Reconciliation stood until it was destroyed by the East German government in 1985. In front of the chapel, stones outline the foundations of the church.

Permanent and temporary exhibits at the Documentation Center chronicle the history of the Cold War and the Wall. From the center's viewing platform, you can get an idea of the challenge it would have been to cross the death strip and the Wall to freedom.

Nearly 60 years after the Wall's construction and 30 years after its fall, it is still a moving and chilling sight.

Three decades after it came down, almost all of the barrier that once ran nearly 97 miles around West Berlin and through the city is gone - torn down. in part, to erase the memory of Germany's Cold War division.

Only a segment near Checkpoint Charlie and the wondrous piece of art that is the Eastside Gallery — the longest remaining section — still stand.

But nowhere else can you get a feeling for what it was like, living in the shadow of the wall that divided Germany for nearly 30 years, than at the Berlin Wall Memorial.



## Restaurants

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WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

**Pacific** 



PHOTOS BY THERON GODBOLD/Stars and Stripe:

Clockwise from top: A giraffe is fed by a visitor at Hamura Zoo and Japanese macaques lounge inside their enclosure near Yokota Air Base, Japan, on Oct. 9. Hamura Zoo, just a short drive from Yokota, also houses a waddle of Humboldt penguins, below.

By Theron Godbold Stars and Stripes

he Hamura Zoo, just a 10-minute drive from the main gate of Yo-kota Air Base in western Tokyo, packs a large entertainment punch with more than 60 varieties of animals ranging from penguins to giraffes.

With a very low cost of admission
— about \$3 for adults and \$0 cents for children ages 4-14, this small though slightly run-down zoo provides a comfortable atmosphere.

The grounds are about the size of 2½ football fields, with paths winding throughout. A large play area near the entrance has an open field, benches and an old train engine to climb on, allowing kids the space to run and adults a place to

set up a picnic or just relax.

At the center of the zoo is a large pond where ducks, cranes and carp make their home. A large main path circles the zoo perimeter, leading patrons on an animal adventure.

Follow the main path and you will come across a variety of animals large and small. A kookaburra laughs in the trees as you gaze into the monkey pit, where, if you're lucky, you'll spot a Japanese macaque riding a boar.

Farther on, you will find an enclosure where a waddle of penguins basks in the sun or swims in a shallow pool.

If African animals are more your style, the small but well-kept giraffe and zebra enclosure is a must see. The enclosure's open design allows a great view of the familiar zoo animals.



More exotic animals like porcupine, servals and Siberian lynx can also be found on the main path.

Back at the entrance, in a large pavilion, zoo attendants will bring out Guinea pigs and chicks for children to handle. Across the path you will find a small souvenir hut where ice cream and zoo gifts can be purchased.

Free parking in the zoo lot is a two-minute walk from the front gate.

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#### ON THE QT

#### DIRECTIONS

4122 Hane, Hamura, Tokyo 205-0012. Exiting the Fussa gate at Yokota Air st Ight, turn left. Continue past the train tracks to the next light and turn right. Continue for about a mile until you see the zoo on the right. GPS coordinates to entrance. 35.765944, 139.328664.

#### TIMES

Open Tuesday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., March through October; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. November-February.

#### COSTS

300 yen (less than \$3) for adults, 50 yen for children ages 4-14 and free for children 3 and under.

#### FOOD

A small shop serves pre-packaged ice cream at the front gate.

#### INFORMATION

http://www.t-net.ne.jp/~hamura-z/

— Theron Godbold

#### WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

#### **Pacific**

# Front-row seat, first-class lunch at Tokyo's Hotel Koe

By Joseph Ditzler Stars and Stripes

hotel restaurant is a traveler's gamble — the worst a penitentiary cafeteria, the best a gourmet's destination.

The first-floor lobby restaurant and bakery at Hotel Koe in the Shibuya section of Tokyo falls on the higher end of that spectrum. Its setting, atmosphere and good food continue to lure this hotel aficionado for return visits.

Koe was created by Chef Satoshi Kakegawa, founder of the French restaurant Ata in Tokyo. The Shibuya restaurant, which opened to favorable reviews in February 2018, is open all day. Lunch is my habit there and the special is available from about 11 am. 2 pm.

If people watching is your guilty pleasure, plant yourself on a counter stool, a few millimeters of glass separating you from the passersby at a busy Tokyo intersection. Enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of iced tea while the kitchen prepares a gourmet twist on an ordinary favorite. Ready for a break after walking around

Ready for a break after walking around Yoyogi Park one afternoon, I was drawn on my first visit to Koe by a simple street sign listing the lunch special. A month or so later, the same sign luned me with taco rice. This was no sampler-sized gourmet interpretation. It came with a side salad and an ample entree.

The third time around, the lunch board advertised a choice of egg sandwich or spaghetti Napolitana, with a dessert option of pudding a la mode Rochefort or Maria Theresia coffee.

The restaurant-bakery is a departure from the ordinary hotel lobby. You'll pass the front desk without a second glance. The center of gravity is the pastry table just inside the door.

The decor is industrial austere, with exposed beams and ceiling ducts, wood trim and flat or corrugated zinc panels. The kitchen crew is on stage behind a counter at the far side of the room.

Contemporary music plays softly in the background; the lobby has a vibe shared with hip hotels from Liverpool to Seattle. I expected Fred Armisen, Carrie Brownstein and a film crew to stroll in.

At the center, a lounge area fronts the cash register/barista station. Its tables are ringed with cushioned chairs that are perfect for a tete-a-tete with a friend or first date.

Adjacent the comfy zone is a long communal table and beyond that a collection of simple tables and chairs for two that can come together for larger parties.

At the edge, the glass wall and accompanying counter comprise a sort of neutral zone where lunch patrons come and go relatively quickly.

and go relatively quickly.

Service is generally prompt and friendly, though I waited on my second visit for some server attention. Seating for lunch on a Saturday or Sunday, incidentally, has never been a problem

On my third trip for lunch to Hotel Koe, I went for the egg sandwich (1,100 yen, about \$10.25) followed by the Rochefort pudding (900 yen alone; 500 yen with the

I savored my coffee with a dose of regret as the pasta arrived in a warm skillet for the neighboring diner. Not to worry, I reminded myself, the future is pudding a

The egg sandwich was not my mom's fried staple and no offense to mom, but I





The lunch special on a recent Saturday was a tasty egg sandwich.



A small hill of pudding, ice cream and whipped cream in a berry sauce served as a delicious dessert on one visit.

expected something special in Shibuya. The eggs (I'm guessing maybe three) arrived hot, folded omelet-style into a thick pillow of yellow and set between fresh slices of soft white bread. One side of the bread was spread with a thin layer of something reddish that I barely noticed.

The lunch set includes a drink (hot or cold tea or coffee) and a small, simple salad of mixed greens and red leaf lettuce with a soy-peanut dressing.

Dining out in Tokyo, especially in a hotel that attracts international guests, is an opportunity to exercise fledgling language skills. I politely corrected the young woman who took my order and confused "50" for "15," which would have been a long wait for an egg sandwich.

On top of my awkward gesturing for "kohi ippai" — a lot of coffee — we both had a good laugh.

Those 15 minutes passed while I inventoried the street beyond the glass. Foot traffic ran the gamut from disoriented western tourists in town for the Rugby World Cup to the young Tokyo denizens: three young men in black leather jackets and the fourth in a kind of black, lacy shawl, all wearing fedoras; a young woman in a black hoodie over a vinyl black skirt and black platform shoes.

The salad and egg sandwich, a handfluwer finally consumed and the dishes cleared away. Dessert arrived: a threetiered conical structure on a custard base, with layers of vanilla ice cream and whipped cream, all resting in a berry sauce and topped with a single chunk of berry.

I slid a spoon into it, carved a slice top to bottom and carried away a perfect sample

ditzler.joseph@stripes.com Twitter: @JosephDitzler





Above: Hotel Koe occupies a prime spot on a busy Shibuya street just blocks from Yoyogi Park.

PHOTOS BY JOSEPH DITZLER Stars and Stripes

Left: The pastry selection is positioned front and center at the Hotel Koe lobby in Shibuya.

#### HOTEL KOE LOBBY BAKERY/RESTAURANT

Location: 3-7 Udagawacho, Shibuya 150-0042, Tokyo prefecture Directions: From Shibuya Station's Hachiko Exit, cross the scrambler to the right of Starbucks and continue north on Koen Dori. Take the second left and continue past the Disney store. Hotel Koe is ahead about one block. Hours: Open daily 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. (Last order at 10:30 p.m.) Prices: Lunch sets start at 1,100 yen. Dress: Casual

Information: email: info@koelobby. com; phone: 03-6712-7257; Online: hotelkoe.com/food

- Joseph Ditzler

WEEKEND: TRAVEL

# Leave your cares (and clothes) behind

## Nakations — naked vacations — a growing trend that goes beyond topless beaches

By Dave G. Houser Tribune News Service

ravel trends come and go - from eco travel to medical tourism, spiritual travel to tornado tourism. One of the latest trends appears to be all about stripping things down to the basics. And I mean that literally.

The "nakation" - aka clothing-optional tourism - is becoming one of the fastest-growing segments of the travel industry. Shirking that outer laver at nude beaches and resorts and even on clothing-optional cruises has become the vacation choice du iour for hundreds of thousands of free-spirited Americans.

Travel industry experts suggest that nude recreation is fast becoming a billion dollar-a-vear industry. It's certainly bringing in big bucks in Florida, where the state's tourism department reports that nude recreation made a \$7.4 billion economic impact in the Sunshine State last year.

Mary Jane Kolassa, media relations representative for the American Association for Nude Recreation, or AANR, the oldest and largest advocacy group for nude recreation in North America.

"The demographics are shifting, however," said Kolassa. "We're seeing more millennials. Gen Xers, African Americans and Hispanics opening up to the joy and freedom offered by the nude travel experience.'

Behavioral scientists theorize that the appeal of nudism may relate in part to the need in our increasingly complex world for "tech detoxing" and going "off the grid" as remedies for the frenetic modern lifestyle. Ditching the duds, they reason, can be seen as one more way to simplify the chaos. Egalitarianism comes into play as well: without the trappings of clothing, it's hard to stereotype someone as "blue collar" or "white collar" when there are no collars.

For those uninitiated to the rites

"Don't let yourself feel pressured on an adult lifestyle holiday. You might feel uncomfortable at first." Engle said, "but once you see so many people — of all ages, shapes and sizes — just living their lives in the nude, it becomes normalized very quickly."

It should be pointed out that the kinds of nakations advocated and promoted by AANR at the organization's nearly 200 member clubs across the country take their cue from naturism - the wholesome, lighthearted joy of nudity without the sexual debauchery that one might envision.

"Simply put." Kolassa said. "our mission is to advocate nudity and nude recreation in appropriate settings while educating and informing society of their value and enjoyment."

That's not to say there aren't plenty of options for those

wanting to kick it up a notch. Resorts catering to the sexually adventurous such as Hedonism II in Jamaica: Desire Resort & Spa in Cancun; Rooftop Resort in Hollywood, Fla.: and Live Oak Resort in Washington, Texas, are popular bucket-list spots for swingers.

Nakations needn't be confined to resorts. Nude cruises are becoming a really big thing. There are a number of travel agencies, such as Texas-based Castaways Travel, that charter entire vessels for clothing-optional cruises. Castaways co-owner Donna Daniels estimates that her company will book about 7,500 passengers this year on three chartered voyages operated by Celebrity and Royal Caribbean Cruises.

"The cruise lines set the itineraries, of course," Daniels said. "but we organize special activities for our clients, including costume nights, body painting and adult comedians."



#### WEEKEND: TRAVEL



IOTOS BY SAMUEL SPECIALE, WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF TOURISM/AP

Jennifer Wright (in foreground), Anthony Bolgnese and Asher Groeschler hike Oct. 6 at Nelson Rocks near Circleville, W.Va. They were among 33 people to participate in a two-day mystery bus trip sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Tourism. Participants boarded a bus in Washington, D.C., not knowing where the trip would take them.

# **DESTINATION UNKNOWN**

## Mystery locations offer adventure seekers new and exciting thrills

By John Raby Associated Press

hen Dena Espenscheid answered an advertisement on social media offering a weekend vacation to an unknown destination, her sister warned her she was going to get kidnapped.

As it turns out, not only was the offer legit, Espenscheid said she "had a blast."

The West Virginia Division of Tourism arranged the free trip last month to promote the state as a perfect fall destination. The only clues: Show up in layered clothes and hiking boots and have a sense of adventure.

Five hundred people applied; 33 were chosen. They were told to show up at a Washington, D.C., bus station at 7 a.m. for the trip that would return them the next day.

The next clues came when they saw the bus, which was labeled "Destination Unknown" but had a WV license plate. The sides were covered in a photo of red, orange and yellow fall foliage, "and we're heading west," Espenscheid said.

That gave them a general idea, but still, what was there to do?

Plenty. And that was the point of the trip, which was open to residents of Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

"I had never thought 'Hey let's go to West Virginia for the weekend.' Outside of Harpers Ferry, I did not know what West Virginia had to offer," Espenscheid said.

Mystery trips have grown into their own industry, both for individual and group travel. Whether traveling by bus, train or plane, these vacations vary widely in length, expense and destination.

Often, clients are given a general idea where they're going. Others aren't told until they arrive at the airport.

Some trips are even bought as gifts for others.

Mystery trip organizers can help clients who have a hard time making a decision, are overwhelmed with where they want to go or have done so much research that the excitement is gone, said Denise Chaykun Weaver, who started Magical Mystery Tours nearly a decade ago after she arranged a trip to San Francisco for a friend on whim. Her firm now books hundreds of trips per year.

"There's this magical thing about a mystery trip in that you don't have control. You don't know where you're going," she said. "Surprises are really fun."

Many companies offer trips based on clients' interests, so there's no arm twisting. Travelers aren't going to be sent on a skydiving trip if they're afraid of heights.

"We definitely get a lot of 'I want a beach; I want something warm," she said.

Pink Bus Mystery Trips of Fargo, N.D., started in 2007 as a fundraising event for ALS research and now plans vacations for women. It took groups on sold-out trips to Michigan in June and Texas in October and plans a twoweek trip to Scandinavia next September.

Among other online trip organizers are Pack Up + Go and SurpriseMeTrips. Upscale vendors include The Travel Mechanic and the Black Tomato, while Rustic Pathways specializes in summer group packages worldwide for students.

Espenscheid, a public speaker from Quantico, Va., said the West Virginia trip was especially attractive because her busy work schedule is already mapped out and involves a dress and high heels. She recently went to Miami for speaking engagements and had another one in the works to Nashville.

"How nice would it be to travel on a weekend and not have to plan it?" she said.

A few hours into the West Virginia mystery trip, her



Alicia Tenise goes horseback riding Oct. 5 in Canaan Valley near Davis, W.Va.

group stopped at Blackwater Falls for a gourmet lunch.

"Something out of a dream," Espenscheid said.

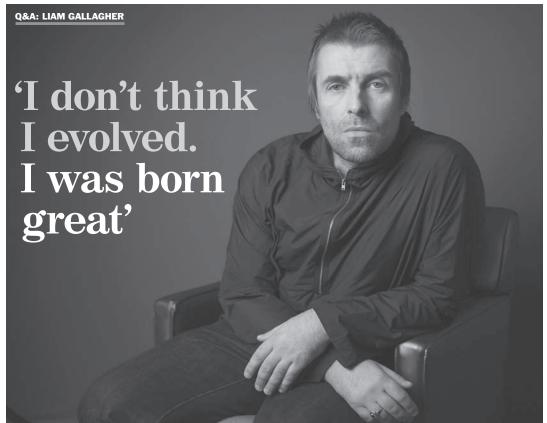
There also was horseback riding and hiking to Seneca
Rocks that took them nearly 900 feet above the valley

The group enjoyed dinner, poking around shops, cafes, breweries and other nightlife in the former coal mining and timber towns of Davis and Thomas. They watched musical acts at a general store-turned-cafe and concert venue, and spent the night at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center.

By the next evening, Espenscheid was back home

— her sister didn't have to worry any longer. "I would absolutely do it again," Espenscheid said. "It got me out of my comfort zone. If I can sign up for another destination unknown where I'm not planning anything? It's part of the adventure."

#### WEEKEND: MUSIC



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

Liam Gallagher poses for a portrait at the Sunset Marquis Hotel in West Hollywood, Calif., on Oct. 15 to promote his sophomore solo album, "Why Me? Why Not."

# Former Oasis frontman talks solo career, family feud and rock music

By Jonathan Landrum Jr.

Associated Press

pend a few minutes with Liam Gallagher and it's clear the rocker hasn't lost any of his bravado, right down to counting himself among the greats in rock history.

Gallagher does acknowledge, though, that one band breakup — not, Oasis, but rather the demise of Beady Eye in 2014 — left him humbled and ready to temporarily step away from music.

Gallagher said leaving band dynamics aside allowed him to "mop up some milk that I spilt in my personal life.

"I think every now and again, you need to remove yourself from whatever you're doing," he said. "I just needed a breather. And I think the fans needed a breather."

And I fillink the latis fleeded a breather.

Since then, Gallagher's been focused on
a solo career, resulting in the 2017 release
"As You Were" and his recently released
sophomore album, "Why Me? Why Not,"
which debuted at No. 1 in the U.K.

The singer-songwriter rose to rock stardom with his older brother Noel Gallagher in the 1990s with their group Oasis, which released a series of anthem tunes from "Wonderwall," "Live Forever" and "Supersonic." Noel left the group in 2009 after accusing Liam of having a hangover that forced them to cancel a concert. Liam disputed the accusation and ultimately sued his brother.

That relationship hasn't been mended, but Gallagher said he wants to reconcile for the sake of his mother.

In a recent interview, Gallagher spoke with The Associated Press about the state of rock music and how he'd like to see a reunion with his brother play out

## reunion with his brother play out. What's the state of rock 'n' roll? Is it still alive?

I think so. I think it might not be selling as many records as dance music or rap music or whatever the (expletive) it is these days that's selling. I think there are some good guitar bands out there. Everyone's been saying rock 'n' roll every year, every decade that it's over. It's been going for a long time. It ain't over.

#### What's your take on the seeming lack of guitar bands in rock?

Obviously, you got to give a little bit to get on the radio. If you're not getting on the radio, you're not selling records. There are a lot of guitar bands sticking to

their guns a little bit. They're not compromising about anything. I think compromising is all right every now and again. If you're going to make some sounds like 1967, you gin't going to get on the radio.

#### 1967, you ain't going to get on the radio. How have you compromised?

I compromised the sound of production. When I was in a band called Beady Eye, it was very 1967 and no one would touch it. It doesn't mean it was bad, but it definitely sounded retro.

How was it to vent through your recent documentary "Liam Gallagher: As It Was"?

It was good to get some things off my chest. There are always people spinning lies just for the sake of themselves.

#### What did your brother Noel think about it?

I think he's upset. But I think he's upset with me breathing. He's going to have to get over it.... I don't care what he thought about it.

#### Do you wish you and Noel can work

Yeah, I wish so. Only for the brother side of it. Not a bit about Oasis. The most important thing is about me and him being brothers. I've got another brother who he doesn't speak to. It would be nice if all three of us would be together. Obviously, our mum is still alive, so she gets upset about it. He thinks I'm desperate to get the band back together for money. But I didn't join the band to make money. I joined the band to have fun and to see the world.

## In a picture-perfect world, how would you like things to play out between you two?

For him to come to my house, get on his knees and beg for mercy and say "Sorry," maybe bring me a cake with a little candle on it ... I'm only joking. Just for me and him to go for a beer. Shoot some (expletive) and get whatever's on his chest off because I don't think we should have split up over a big argument. I mean, I didn't kick his cat. I didn't try lugging up with his Mrs. or anything like that. I don't know what his problem is. I think he just wanted to go away and do his solo career, get all the coin and be surrounded by all the yes men you can fire and hire whenever he wants. You can't do that with me.

How have you evolved over the years? I don't think I evolved. I was born great.

I don't think I evolved. I was born great And I've just been great all the way.

# WEEKEND: MUSIC REVIEWS



and the Macarena took over America.
"Imperfect Circle," their first studio album in almost 15 years, picks off right where they left off, with earnest and yet utterly forgettable songs. They're nice when you play them, but make no discernible impression.

For any younger readers, a refresher: Hootie & the Blowfish emerged from the University of South Carolina with a laid-back, post-grunge and cheerful mix of rootsy rock and country.

Saddled with a name that aged poorly — both

parts are nicknames for guys not even in the band - Hootie & the Blowfish took the best new artist title at the 1996 Grammys thanks to such hits as "Hold My Hand," "Let Her Cry" and "Only Wanna Be With You," and then took their place with other inoffensive college bro-rockers like Blues Traveler and Counting Crows.

The intervening decades have done nothing to darken the Hootie vibe. In fact, lead singer Darius Rucker seems even more disengaged, writing love songs to his longtime wife and reminding listeners he's a lucky, lucky man. "Why's a beauty queen standing here with me?" he asks.

Rucker's voice has a deeper baritone and a more pronounced twang, showing the influence of his years as a country chart-topper. But the songs are mushy. "Wildfire Love" featuring Lucie Silvas was co-written by Ed Sheeran, but neither make it spark. "Hold On" is co-written by Chris Stapleton and wastes some funky guitar. The majority of the album was produced by Jeff Trott, who has — surprise, surprise — worked with Counting Crows. Though Rucker insists in "Change" that life is always altering, nothing on this album is fresh.

Most of the lyrics sound like what you'd find stitched onto the pillows of a hippie baby boomer — "Mondays are just Fridays in disguise," "There ain't nothing that a little love can't get us through"

and "Tell me to and I will shoot down the moon. Rucker is all about a can't-we-just-get-along ethos. The closest he gets to socially conscious is the cheerful, Hawaiian-tinged "We Are One," in which he blithely sings, "You and I, to the left or to the right / Meet vou somewhere in between.

That would be the middle — the mushy middle.

 Mark Kennedy Associated Press

Top: Hootie & the Blowfish, from left: Dean Felber, Mark Bryan, Darius Rucker and Jim Sonefeld

#### Michael Kiwanuka

Kiwanuka (Interscope Records)

Advice about letting your personality flourish, over-coming self-doubt, trusting your instincts and gaining the confidence to do your best work is meted out often and by many, but that's easier said than done.

Michael Kiwanuka

struggled with similar difficulties as he recorded his excellent second album, 2016's "Love & Hate." His new effort is an extremely successful example of being able to express yourself while possessing the talent in and around you for it to be more than a vanity exercise.

"Kiwanuka" expands and deepens the sonic palette

of its predecessor, reuniting the Londoner born into a family of Ugandan refugees with producers and creative collaborators Danger Mouse and Inflo.

They returns to some of the musical touchstones of "Love & Hate" - Isaac Hayes, Terry Callier and Marvin Gaye — while often swapping the generally acoustic-based and neat sounds of that album for denser, fuzzier and more percussive atmospheres.

The songs usually flow into each other, simultane-

ously linked and separated by electronics, spoken-word fragments, vocal quilts and other assorted buffers, providing a sense of unity that also serves as a recom-

mendation for listening to each song as part of a whole. The opening trio of "You Ain't the Problem," "Rolling" and "I've Been Dazed" covers most of the bases — an uplifting, joyous start; a soulful guitar riff that illustrates the lyrics' urgency and the need to keep moving; and a smoldering track that adds instruments and voices and then breaks back down as the singer both offers and seeks support and guidance.

Kiwanuka's voice is altered to sound worn and weary at the acoustic start to "Hero," but regains its youth and vigor as the track gains momentum, including an electrifying guitar solo, to focus on violent fates, societal failures and personal challenges.

"Hard to Say Goodbye" beautifully explores depths of feeling as the music swirls, while the hope and devo-tion on closer "Light" intensify as strings, an ethereal choir and another extended guitar solo add a turn to the kaleidoscope.

- Pablo Gorondi Associated Press

#### Jeff Lynne's ELO

From Out of Nowhere (Columbia Records)

Jeff Lynne's ELO is an elastic band that alternates between being a one-man studio outfit and, nowadays, a 13-member touring ensemble with several guitarists, keyboard players and three string players, among others.

"Time of Our Life," from the band's new album, symbolically brings the two versions together. Lynne plays practically everything on the track while paying tribute to the full lineup's June 2017 show at Wembley Stadium — "60,000 mobile phones / Were shining in the dark of night." The song briefly quotes the ELO classic
"Telephone Line," and there's even a snippet of the

"From Out of Nowhere," the album and its eponymous opening track, contain Lynne's trademarks — the layered voices, the high-pitched harmonies, sheets of keyboards and guitars and Beatlesque melodies. It's all expertly played, as usual, although the drums often sound rather mechanical. With ELO stalwart Richard Tandy playing a piano solo on the rocking "One More Time," a reunion with ELO original drummer Bev

Bevan would have been welcome.

Keeping with Lynne's usual melancholy, the lovely second track "Help Yourself" launches a four-tune section, also including rhythmically free-spirited "All My Love," jingle-jangly "Down Came the Rain" and weepy ballad "Losing You," where any optimism comes right after the rose-tinted glasses have been crushed — "I still remember how you smiled and waved your last

goodbye / But somehow you stimed and waved your last goodbye / But somehow you will always live with me." Among the rest of the tracks, "Goin' Out on Me" evokes Little Anthony, and the Imperials "Tears on My Pillow" and closer "Songbird" includes the record's most uplifting lyrics over its slowest beat.

"From Out of Nowhere" continues Lynne's recent resurgence with songs that stay true to ELO's immediately identifiable sounds. But to broaden the palette, after two albums that are solo efforts all in but name, Lynne should consider letting his much-praised touring band into the studio, too.

- Pablo Gorondi Associated Press



### WEEKEND: BOOKS

By Dan Lamothe The Washington Post

illiam Kyle Carpenter knows the pain will come. Nine years after throwing himself on a Taliban

Nine years after throwing himself on a Taliban hand grenade in Afghanistan to protect a fellow Marine from injury, Carpenter is a blur of motion. At 30, he is still the youngest current recipient of the Medal of Honor, the nation's top award for valor in combat, five years after receiving it in a White House ceremony.

He has run marathons, skydived and recently launched a
nationwide tour to promote his
new book, "You Are Worth It:
Building a Life Worth Fighting
For"—all after nearly dying
three times and undergoing more
than 40 surgeries to reconstruct
his face, right arm and other body
parts torn apart by the explosion.
He's pain-free now, he said, but he
realizes that as he gets older, the
catastrophic nature of his injuries
is likely to cause other problems.
But that's for another day.

On a recent Friday, Carpenter
— who goes by his middle name
— was sitting in a dark suit and
tie on a blue easy chair in front
of 300 people at the National Museum of the Marine Corps near
Quantico, Va.

He spoke casually about his injuries, saying that doctors put "Humpty Dumpty back together again." But he also shared struggles he has faced since receiving the Medal of Honor in 2014, including discovering that some people weren't sensitive to his personal limits and would add surprise events to his travel schedule without asking him. He was briefly hospitalized a few months after receiving the award in a state of exhaustion, he said.

"My mindset was that I'm going to say yes to as much as possible, therefore disappointing as few people as possible," he said. "Now I realize now I had no time to feel. I had no time to think, self-reflect — anything."

There's a lot of reflection like that from Carpenter in "You Are Worth It." While it might look on the surface like a self-help book, it's a memoir of gritty recovery and a thank-you letter to the many people who kept him alive and focused on healing.

In some of the most striking scenes, the generally upbeat Carpenter describes suffering through nightmares and hallucinations while on pain medication and breaking down in tears in front of his mother, Robin. He was overwhelmed that his injuries would not allow him to eat a bowl of cereal.

"Through sobs, I managed to choke out one devastating question: 'Look at me. Who is ever going to love me again?'" Carpenter recalled.

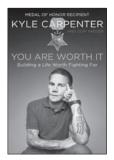
It's a striking admission for a wounded veteran who has been admired for his pluck and grace in the public eye and celebrated as a modern medical miracle. Carpenter has drawn more than 436,000 on Twitter (handle: @chicksdigs-cars), while eschewing politics in favor of encouraging kindness and gratitude.

For me, as a journalist covering the military, Carpenter's tale has



# **Valor and sacrifice**

A decorated Marine, badly injured in Afghanistan, shares hard road to recovery in 'You Are Worth It'









Clockwise from top: President Barack Obama awards the Medal of Honor to retired Marine Corps Cpl. William Kyle Carpenter at the White House on June 19, 2014; Carpenter takes a selfie with his best friend, Lance Cpl. Nick Eufrazio, in this undated photo; Carpenter receives his bachelor's degree in international studies from the University of South Carolina in 2017; Carpenter appears with his team of doctors at Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Va.

long resonated.

I became aware of him in 2011, after he accepted an invitation to appear at the South Carolina General Assembly a few months after the explosion. Lawmakers had decided to recognize Carpenter, who spent his last years of high school in South Carolina, for absorbing "the full blast from an enemy hand grenade in seeking to save a fellow Marine," as they put it in a resolution.

The images of Carpenter, still badly scarred and wearing a prosthetic eye while in his dress uniform, circulated widely online. But few knew his story or how the Marine Corps might decorate him for his valor. If his actions were as compelling as described, I reasoned, certainly he could merit the nation's highest award for valor in combat.

While working for the Marine Corps Times, I called his parents' house in South Carolina one night. To my surprise, Carpenter himself picked up. He had more treatment left at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Maryland, and he said he'd be glad to tell me his story there if if gave him a chance to highlight the sacrifices that his infantry unit — Jad Battalion, 9th Marines — had made in Afghanistan.

The Marine Corps probably could have scuttled the interview, but with Carpenter in favor of it, we proceeded. I gently warned him that I'd need to investigate what happened and speak to as many people who knew him as possible. He didn't hesitate. Instead, he offered phone numbers as a starting point for me to talk to others who were there when he was hit.

The story was published in January 2012. Carpenter has checked in occasionally since and recalled when we met again recently that when he sat down with me to tell his story for the first time, "it wasn't clear what was going to happen" in the Marine Corps' investigation of his actions.

Infestigation of the sactions.

In front of the crowd at the museum, Carpenter said he considered writing a book for some time but did not know where to begin. Then it hit him, he said: Every-where he spoke, people sought him out to tell their own traumatic stories, even if they had nothing to do with the military. What if his book could speak to them, whether they had served in the military or not?

"I thought, 'Of course!" he said.
"Everyone can relate to struggle."
One on one, he said that with

One on one, he said that with two years of work on the book now complete, he's still trying to figure out what to do with his future. He called it a "mystery." For now, he's not sure whether his message of overcoming adversity can break through in a country facing deep divisions, but he wants to try.

"Now, that's truly the milliondollar question," he said. "I truly hope so. I truly hope so."

Raised a Baptist, Carpenter said he never lost faith in God during his three years in the hospital. But the ordeal did make him wonder why he survived, and he thinks that's healthy.

"You know, I'm still working through it, and I still believe," he said. "Obviously, the line of miracles that got me to where I am is incredible. It's almost so surreal, to believe that they all fell the way they did."

# WEEKEND: TELEVISION & DVD

#### NEW ON DVD

"Big Bang Theory: The Final Season": The CBS comedy ended the way it started — a show that took intelligent humor, mixed in some saucy moments and presented it through a first-rate cast. It is obvious looking at the slate of comedies on the networks this fall that the end of the series has created a comedy black hole.

Jim Parsons got the lion's share of praise for his performance as the odd Dr. Sheldon Cooper, but as with all great situation comedies — "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," "M'A'S'H." "Seinfeld" — the reason the program worked was the solid ensemble cast throughout the 12 seasons. Particular praise should be given Mayim Bialik, who gave the series a huge comedy boost with her work as the quirky Amy Farrah Fowler.

The mix of pop culture references with real science showed that humor doesn't have to live in the gutter as long as it is written with care and a commitment to being as smart as possible.



Jim Parsons, left, and Mayim Bialik were two of the stars of the ensemble cast of

"The Big Bang Theory."

"Heathers 30th Anniversary Steel Book": The 1988 feature film was not completely loved until it was made available to watch at home. That's when the beauty of the dark comedy found in the script by Daniel Waters

could fully be appreciated.
An all-star cast that includes Winona
Ryder, Christian Slater, Shannen Doherty
and Lisanne Falk takes on the story of the
picture-perfect queens of the social scene at
Westerburg High that everyone wants to
be and are afraid to cross. Veronica (Ryder) is
convinced she wants to be a Heather until
she meets J.D. (Slater), who has some wild
ideas about dealine with bullies.

Be sure to watch the production while keeping in mind it was made 30 years ago. That's why it can deal with themes that come across as taboo compared with the way movies currently are made. The wickedly dark comedy remains one of the best movies set in high school.

Also available on DVD:
"The Angry Birds Movie 2": The flightless angry birds and the scheming green piggies take their battle to the next level.

"Good Boys": Three sixth graders end up on an adventure when they skip school. "The Farewell": A young woman discovers the family matriarch has not been told

she's dying. Tzi Ma and Awkwafina star.

"47 Meters Down Uncaged": Four teenage girls fight for survival in a submerged

Mayan city.

"The Peanut Butter Falcon": A young man with Down syndrome runs away from a nursing home to fulfill his dream of attending a pro wrestling school.

"Star Trek: Discovery – Season 2": Streaming series where the crew of the U.S.S. Discovery join forces with Capt. Christopher Pike (Anson Mount).

"Cobra Kai Season 1 and 2": Series looks at "The Karate Kid" rivals more than 30 years after the events of the 1984 All Valley Karate Tournament.

Rick Bentley/Tribune News Service



ARC photo

The set for the live musical performance in ABC's "The Wonderful World of Disney Presents The Little Mermaid Live!" airing Nov. 10 on AFN-Family. The original movie will be shown with live performances of the musical numbers.

# 'Little Mermaid' swims again

# ABC offers viewers a unique hybrid of Disney favorite

By LUAINE LEE Tribune News Service

magine a Disney cartoon that melts into a live musical. That's just what ABC is planning for Nov. 10 on AFN-Family. And if it sounds a little bir remarkable, it is. The hybrid will commemorate the 30th anniversary of Disney's evergreen animated movie "The Little Mermaid."

The special will accomplish that by airing the movie, which will transition into 10 live musical numbers from the movie as well as from the Broadway show

The live part of "The Wonderful World of Disney Presents The Little Mermaid Live!" will feature Hawaii born singer-actress Auli'i Cravalho as Ariel. Cravalho is best known for starring in the title role of Disney's "Moana." Grammy-winning reggae artist Shaggy will portray Sebastian the crab. And the production will costar Queen Latifah as Ursula, the villainous octopus, Graham Phillips as Prince Eric and John Stamos as the French chef.

"(It'll be) live action, then a blend of live and the original feature, then into the original feature," explains executive producer Hamish Hamilton. "So basically it's kind of a live transitional graphic show.

"The original feature will exist exactly as it always has, and we all love it, and then when we come to a song, we will transition from the original to the new, and there's a separation of everything there," he says.

The entire movie is being scored again to create a continuity and flow from one dimension to the other, and it's being done by original composer Alan Menken.

Menken, with his late lyricist Howard Ashman, wrote the original songs



"The Little Mermaid Live!" stars Auli'i

for "The Little Mermaid," as well as "Beauty and the Beast" and "Aladdin," though Ashman died before "Aladdin" was completed (Menken finished the project).

Menken describes how he composes for features. "I try to always let my music come from characters and story exclusively, and not really from me," he says.

says.
"It comes through me, in a way. And so I think the characters and the stories speak to people, and I'd like to think that the craft of what we create brings that to life in a memorable and provocative way. We try to be true to a stylistic point of view or a particular cultural bend, whatever it is, but always try to have interesting inspiration for songs. And I think that really resonates with people."

The Jamaican-born Shaggy is thrilled to be part of the singular project. "I have three daughters, and I had to sit down and watch this movie, the original movie, over and ove

"And I feel like Sebastian is me because after a while, you are watching it, and your girls are there, and because they are reciting every line to it, you've got to join in at some point because that's the only way you are getting points as a dad. And years ago, actually, I recorded 'Under the Sea' in 1996. And I kind of did almost like kind of a rap version. It's funny how things come full circle," he says.

There's a trick to selling a song, says Shaggy. "The great thing about making records and singing songs is you have to believe it," he says.

"Thave to sing it to you so you believe it and you feel it. The good thing about 'The Little Mermaid' when I watched it, it's emotions, and it's relatable emotions to people. This is why this story has survived so long because it is relatable to everybody. It's a love story. There is good, there is evil. All of that is embodied into this. And that's a part of our everyday life."

Menken likes that Shaggy incorporated a rap sound to his song. "I generally think of myself like an architect. I design a house that other people will live in," says Menken. "And I've been very fortunate that

very talented people have lived in those houses or built those houses. I'll be very involved the first time around with something. And then after that, there's a structure that other people can take on. And it evolves through different forms."

When he adapted "The Little Mermaid" for Broadway, he says he reformulated the piece into two acts. "Going to television, you're dealing with a whole other format," says Menken. "So those changes are necessary for that and also (for the) visuals. It's on a case-by-case basis if I get involved with particular changes. And it really just depends on the project at hand.

"Generally, I really like kind of being the grandpa. My children are born. They're out in the world, and they're finding their own way."

# WEEKEND: HEALTH & FITNESS



# **DON'T PANIC!**

# Health anxiety tends to rise after age 50, but it doesn't have to take over your life

By Stacey Burling ■ The Philadelphia Inquirer

fter she broke her neck in a car accident at age 28, Renee Tucker's doctors told her that her newly repaired spine would never be as strong as it was before. Another accident could paralyze her.

She's not allowed to run or ride on roller coasters, but the Buckingham Township, Pa., mother of two has mostly been able to lead a normal life. Now that she's S1, though, she's worrying more about her health. She often feels some dizziness and pain when she stands up, symptoms her doctors have not been able to explain. Any ache in her neck makes her anxious.

She's seen that some people her age, even those who've taken good care of themselves, have had major health problems.

"Tjust have this kind of sense of impending doom, that it's going to get worse and not be manageable," she said of her health. "As I get older, I feel weaker and

While plenty of people ignore their health all their lives, Tucker's worries about her increasing vulnerability are common in later life. Doctors and mental health experts said the 50s, 60s and up

can be when symptoms provoke more anxiety than they once did.

This is when many first experience serious illnesses like diabetes and heart disease. Even if they don't have a chronic illness, people are more aware of their mortality. It's hard to avoid the message that the risk of almost everything bad goes up with age. That's why age mostly determines screening for breast, prostate and colon cancer. It's why doctors start paying closer attention to your heart.

For most of us, health worries are allayed by test results. We might lose some sleep temporarily, but we gain renewed appreciation for health we can no longer take for granted. For some, though, the distress is extreme enough that life starts to revolve around health fears. There are hours spent on the internet that can fuel cyberchondria and constant doctor visits.

Health experts say that worries about health exist on a continuum. A little worry is normal and could be good, because it prompts people to see their doctors. A lot can be crippling.

Tim Scarella, a psychiatrist at Harvard Medical School, said health anxiety is a problem when people become hypersensitive to changes in their bodies, and when they are not reassured when the doctor tells them they don't have anything serious. The key question is, "How much does that worry make you miserable or keep you from engaging in your life?" Seetha Chandrasekhara. a psychiatrist

with Temple Health, thinks that for those who are inclined to worry, the focus of fear changes over time. In their 20s, people might be anxious about school, first jobs or dating. Health becomes a bigger issue later in life, when symptoms increase and peers get sick.

There's not much research on how

There's not much research on how health worries change over the lifespan. Renee El-Gabalawy, a psychologist at the University of Manitoba, thinks medical definitions have stymied science. What used to be called hypochondriasis—the patient who was always going to the doctor when there was nothing wrong

— did not include the many patients who had symptoms but were worrying too much about them. The medical terms used since 2013 are somatic symptom disorder, which includes people with real symptoms, and illness anxiety disorder, in which patients without unusual symptoms worry excessively about getting sick.

While most mental illnesses becomes less common with age. El-Gabalawy said somatic symptom disorder increases with age and illness. Not much is known about the broader category of health amxiety, which includes more normal worry. Based on her clinical experience, she estimates that "well over 50%" of older patients experience some level of health anxiety.

Thomas Fergus, a psychologist at Baylor University, has found that worries about health are more likely to lead to increased use of medications, doctor visits and lab tests, and thus higher costs in older patients than in young ones.

Doctors might be feeding health anxiety without realizing it, experts said, by cavalierly sending patients for tests. Waiting for results can be hard on people of all ages. "Oh, wow," Scarella said patients think, "the doctor thinks it's enough to test for."

Jeffrey Millstein, a primary care doctor at Penn Medicine, routinely asks his patients what they are most worried about when they come to see him. "That's a way to get some of those fears out on the table," he said. If your anxiety is on the milder end of

If your anxiety is on the milder end of the spectrum, it can help to know that worry is normal. Accept it and know it will pass. Good nutrition, exercise and meditation can help. Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton, a Penn

Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton, a Penn Medicine neuropsychologist, said to not underestimate the importance of sleep. Sleep problems become more common in later life. Lack of sleep can affect mood and tolerance for distress. For more serious health anxiety,

cognitive behavioral therapy is the gold standard. It helps patients reframe catastrophic ideas about their health.

Ellen Langer, 72, a Harvard University psychologist who studies mind-body interaction and mindfulness, thinks we'd all do better to think about aging differently. "People too frequently mis-associate age and illness," she said. That can be a self-fulfiling prophecy. "I believe the amount of control we have over disease is enormous."

One thing people can do is train themselves to pay attention to their bodies differently. We all notice when something feels a little wrong. It's also important to notice how often we feel fine.

We can also often talk ourselves out of stress by really thinking about what's causing it. "Stress results from two things," Langer said. "One is that you think something is going to happen, and two is, when it happens, it's going to be awful. You need to question both of those."

We'll all feel better if we realize that a lifetime of experiences will help us cope. "We'll just sit back and let whatever happens, happen," Langer said.

### veekend: family



Working a nontraditional job can significantly change how parents approach money and budgets with children.

# **Talking budget with kids**

# How an unsalaried job changes the picture

By MEG ST-ESPRIT Special to The Washington Post

hyloh Hadley owns a Pitts-burgh salon, Hair by Shyloh. Her son's father also is selfemployed, running Flower City Printmakers. With two parents in unsalaried positions, 5-year-old Shark is learning to understand the nuances and unpredictability that come with self-employment. His parents are part of the rising "gig economy" that has shaped an entire generation of adults — dubbed "Generation 1099" by some, in reference to the self-employed tax form they file.

It's also shaping how their children view jobs and money.

Hadley says her son "understands that his dad and I don't have bosses. and he doesn't want anyone to be his boss, in the way that no 5-year-old wants to have a boss. I tell him that I loved learning from my bosses and working for other people; it's not a bad thing to be a worker! I'm nervous that he won't have a good concept of how much work goes into building a career." Shark wants to cut hair, "print things" and sell his art when he grows up.

Hadley said she loves the flexibility of owning her own business. such as being able to take a morning off for school events. However, that same flexibility has been confusing to Shark. "I think it's disorienting for him sometimes that I'm usually home in the afternoons, but sometimes I'm not, and he doesn't always know if it's a mom-at-home day or

Money can be confusing to kids of gig workers, too. Accountant Ary Doakes runs Badass Budget Babe, where she helps self-employed individuals manage their finances.

She sees the shift to a gig economy significantly impacting the way Americans — and particularly families — discuss money. "These kids have this fluid vision of money; there is always more of it available, she said. "That's awesome, but in my work I do see that mind-set leading to overworking. It's the reason that people choose not to budget or have a spending plan. They think, 'I will just go make more next month.' There's positives to a gig economy, but it can be a struggle as well.

A parent herself, she advocates discussing money and budgets with children as young as 4. "It's a part of our society, and they need to understand it

Doakes tells gig workers to teach their kids about how contract work fluctuates, so that they can understand the somewhat unstable nature of their parents' positions. "The economy is great right now, which helps gig workers, but how are they going to fare in a recession? It likely won't be like this indefinitely." Doakes said. Kids who learn financial literacy skills at a young age will learn to weather the ups and downs of gig work themselves. "Be it an app such as YNAB [You Need a Budget] or paper and pen whatever your family will actually use we need to involve them in the process."

When it comes to teaching children about savings, Doakes says families have more success when they look at their budgets through percentages rather than dollar amounts. Some expenses are static, such as rent or a mortgage. For other categories, such as a vacation fund or college account, "percentages allow you to hit everything that's important to you. Whether it's 10% of \$100 or \$1,000 this month, you

accomplished something," Doakes said. This visible savings structure will help kids see results from their parents' fluctuating income

"With this budgeting structure, kids see, 'The more I hustle, the more fun I get to have,'" Doakes said. "So that's really concrete for kids." But it's important as well, she said, to pass on the importance of balance. Talk about work hours vs. hours at home. That Xbox might come faster if Mom works an 80hour week, but what is lost? Bedtime tuck-ins or school-field-trip chaperoning? What compromises can be

Ryan Coburn, a financial planning analyst for eMoney, encourages parents to give an allowance for the purpose of teaching money management. "Many parents don't want to do an allowance for things that kids should be doing anyway, and I get it. But it's a fabulous way to illustrate financial literacy with kids," Coburn said. He suggests giving children a weekly amount that works for their family, and sitting down with them to teach them how to allocate it. "Put everything out on the table with your own income, also, at a level they can understand. Help them grasp bills, taxes, savings," Coburn said. Their base allowance can go into different containers for spending, saving, investing and gifting. "Then there can be additional things like washing the car. Things that are out of the ordinary, kind of like the gig economy. Show them how you can't rely on it: illustrate that sometimes it works and not other times. Sometimes you have the energy to take on an extra task for more cash, and sometimes you don't. You can talk all you want but until they are doing it, they won't get it.'

### THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

Lisa Smith Molinari



# Suicide rate complicated. but solutions shouldn't be

ast month, another U.S. military veteran took his own life on a Veteran's Administration campus. This is the sixth veteran suicide in the public areas of Florida's Bay Pines VA facility in the last six years. This latest incident is also part of the evergrowing rate of veteran suicides each year, and part of a nationwide increase in suicides among all adults.

Is the increase in veteran suicides a direct result of the surge in the country's overall adult suicide rate? Unfortunately, it's not that simple.

The suicide rates announced in the latest Veterans' Administration report are the result of a complex evaluation of age, gender, finances, U.S. population increase, veteran

population decrease, military duty status, treatment status, changes in study criteria and other variables. The rising veteran suicide rates must be analyzed in context with so many other factors, it's almost impossible to draw meaningful conclusions from the data.

Despite efforts to address the crisis — President Donald Trump signed an executive order in 2018 allowing all veterans to receive mental health care during the high-risk first year after separation, and an interagency task force was established in March to tackle the issue 17 "Title 38 Veterans" and four active-duty, reserve and guard members still kill themselves every day.

In news stories about the rash of veteran suicides on VA campuses across the U.S., experts postulated that suicide victims blame the VA. Eric Caine, director of the Injury Control Research Center for Suicide Prevention at the University of Rochester, told the Washington Post after a series of VA parking lot suicides last year, "These suicides are sentinel events. It's very important for the VA to recognize that the place of a suicide can have great meaning. There is a real moral imperative and invitation here to take a close inspection of the quality of services at the facility level."

Caine's theory might be a desperate attempt to simplify the veteran suicide conundrum; however, veterans them-selves pointed fingers at the VA before pointing weapons at themselves.

"I dared to dream again. Then you showed me the door faster than last night's garbage," posted Army veteran John Toombs in 2016 before hanging himself outside the Murfreesboro, Tenn., VA hospital, where he had been kicked out of treatment for not following instructions.

Two years later, investigators found a suicide note near the uniformed body of Marine Colonel Jim Tuner outside Florida's Bay Pines VA facility. "I bet if you look at the 22 suicides a day you will see VA screwed up in 90%," Turner wrote before turning a rifle on himself.

The following April, three more veterans killed themselves at VA campuses. One victim shot himself in the crowded lobby of a Texas VA outpatient clinic, which was seen by most as an obvious message.

Despite the blame some have placed squarely on the VA, there are no easy answers. In fact, figures show that the rate of suicide in VA medical centers is lower than in the private sector. After the VA made prevention its top clinical priority, the rate of suicide in VA hospitals has dropped more than 80 percent and 419 of 466 suicide attempts in 2019 on VA campuses were stopped.

However, of the 17 veterans who kill themselves every day, an average of 10.4 don't use VHA services at all. So far, promising improvements in VA care have not

resulted in progress in the overall crisis. No matter how many experts weigh in, no matter how many task forces are created, no matter how many variables are studied, no matter how many veterans kill themselves on VA campuses, no one can make any sense of this complex trend. Instead of putting any more resources toward unravel-

ing the impossible tangle of causes and variables, perhaps the government should fund simple, common-sense preventative measures: Standardize VA quality control and bring low-rated facilities up to par. Institute more outreach to at-risk veterans who do not use VHA. Give VA staff better training in suicide prevention strategies.

It might not be that simple, but it's time to stop trying, and simply start doing.

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: themeatandpotatoesoflife.com Email: meatandpotatoesoflife@googlemail.com

# WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

#### NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

#### HOW SWEET IT IS! BY MICHAEL PALEOS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

hooked on them only after discovering the archive of puzzles in the New York Times app. "After doing enough of them, I started ndering what it would take to make one, and down the rabbit hole I went." This is Michael's second crossword for The Times, and unday. — W.S.

ACROSS 1 Iraq War concern, in

- 4 An earl outranks him
- 9 Billiards maneuver
- 14 Evelsim "@#%!"
- 19 Tilling tool
- 20 QB defenders, collectively
- 21 Relating to a certain arm bone
- Kenyatta president of Kenya starting in 2013
- 23 Something set by a
- 25 Year of the final flight of the Concordes
- 26 French-speaking African nation
- 27 Eyedropper, essentially
- 28 Submission to a record label, once
- 30 Rodeo loop 31 Accessory with a
- bass drum
- 32 Major fuss 33 Wedding bands?
- 34 Way out there
- 38 Hand over
- 39 Take a mulligan on
- 40 "<<" button: Abbr.
- hockey puck
- 43 To a certain extent,
  - colloquially
- 45 Ad phrase indicating higher pricing tiers
- 49 Amtrak stop: Abbr

- imperative
- 52 Pill bug, biologically 54 Intake suggestion,
- briefly 55 Unlock, to
- Shakespeare 56 Third-longest river in Europe, after the
- Volga and Danube 58 Tear to shreds
- 59 Partner of 46-Down in the frozen-food 60 Brown seaweeds
- 63 U.S. island owned almost entirely by the billionaire Larry Ellison
- 65 Manic-looking, in a way
- 67 Neutral response from a therapist
- 68 Pattern once used for hospital volunteer uniforms with a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 70 Loser of a beauty contest, in myth
- 71 Birds known to mimic car alarms and human speech 73 Graduate's "honor
- 74 Carousel mount, to
- 75 Mark of a scam artist 76 Hooked on
- 77 Laura of "Big Little Lies"
- 78 Emulate Johnny
- Appleseed 79 H, to Hellenes
- 80 "Ya dig?" in more
- modern slang 82 Get up in the face of

- 85 Emma Stone's role in "La La Land"
- 88 Protagonist in Toni Morrison's "Beloved"
- 90 Skate-park features 92 Place for regulars
- 93 Handel's "\_\_\_\_, Galatea e Polifemo"
- 94 Glenn Frey's "The
- 96 Bad thing to come up in a title search 98 Total failure
- 100 Important members of the community, so
- to sneak 103 Where menisci are found
- 105 What socks usually 106 Bitter green
- 107 Regards covetously 108 Display piece for
- tchotchkes 110 Virtual sticky 111Battling it out
- 112 Boondocks 114 One of 11 in a
- Christmas carol 115 Provide an address 116 French novelist Zola
- 117Bit 118 Company that once
- offered "the Thrift Book of a Nation" 119 Excited, with "up"
- 120 Foil alternatives 121 Meditative syllables
- DOWN
- 1 Big fat lies 2 Where you might need to get a grip
- 3 In one's heart of hearts 4 Pop covers

- 5 Stopped a flight 6 Frosty encrustation
- 7 Its square equals its square root
- 8 Types who think school is too cool
- 9 They're kept under wraps for a long
- time
- 10 Nut extract used in skin care
- 11 Derisive chuckles 12 Didn't just hint at 13 Verdi's " m"
- 14 Gold digger's goldmine
- Elon Musk
- 17 Like a crowd when the headliner takes the stage
- 24 Like some servings of Scotch
- 30 New Guinea port that was Amelia Earhart's last known
- 36 Original N.Y.C.
- 37 Nonpro
- 44 Steamy
- in the frozen-food husiness 47 Dairy sources
- 48 Biweekly occurrence. for many

106

110

114

original "King Kong"

53 Neuf + deux

and #

represent

61 Executor's charge

62 Pounce on, as an

opportunity

by sea'

63 The "two" in "two if

- 15 Alma mater of Tesla's 16 Jazzman Blake
- 18 Pipsqueaks
- 29 "You get the idea"
- point of departure 33 Large, purple Hanna-
- 35 Campaign ... or a campaign topic
  - subway line
- 42 Heaps
- 46 Partner of 59-Across

- African nation 65 What lettuce lends to
- a sandwich 55 Abbr. between \* 66 Popular D.I.Y. site 68 Endeavor recognized 57 Separation at a
- by the César awards wedding? 69 Reid of "The Big 60 What x's sometimes Lebowski'
  - 72 They come through when you need them most
    - 74 Total stunners
    - 77 Sketch out 78 W-2 IDs
- 81 Its closest neighbor is Andromeda 83 Mr. Wrong
  - 84 All-vowel avowal 85 Carry some relevance for
    - 86 Mode, on a menu 87 Scatterbrains
    - 89 Neon marker 91 Is blinded by rage
    - 95 Cent : euro :: \_\_ 97 Modern in Munich
    - 99 Epic narrative 100 Tiny objections
- 101 What many a navelgazer gazes at 102 Treatment for Parkinson's
- 104 Jag 107 Word repeated in ou ne pas
- 108 Lake bordered by four states and a
- 109 Yarn 111Just ducky
  - 113 Person who might call you out

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#### **FACES**



Human Annuar Come Income/Th

James Dean, shown in the 1950s, isn't done making movies.

# CGI James Dean cast in new war film

From wire reports

Sixty-four years after James Dean's fatal car crash, Hollywood has a new role for the "Rebel Without a Cause"

With the help of "full-body" CGI, which uses real footage and photos, Dean, who died in 1955 at age 24, will posthumously play Rogan in the live action Vietnam era-film "Finding Jack," according to The Hollywood Reporter on Wednesday.

The film, adapted from Gareth Crocker's 2011 novel of the same name, focuses on the more than 10,000 military dogs abandoned following the end of the Vietnam War.

Digitally manipulated posthumous performances have made some inroads into films. But those have been largely roles the actors already played, including Carrie Fisher and

Peter Cushing, who first appeared together in "Star Wars" and were prominently featured in the 2016 spinoff "Rogue One."

But the prospect of one of the movies' most beloved former stars being digitally resurrected was met with widespread criticism after the news was first reported by The Hollywood Reporter. Chris Evans, the "Captain America" actor, was among those who called the plans disrespectful and wrongheaded.

"Maybe we can get a computer to paint us a new Picasso. Or write a couple new John Lennon tunes," said Evans on Twitter. "The complete lack of understanding here is shameful."

Dean's family granted the new independent production house Magic City Films
— started by the film's co-directors Anton

Ernst and Tati Golykh — the right to use the "East of Eden" star's image

"East of Eden" star's image.
Ernst explained that he and Golykh
chose Dean after "months of research" and
"search(ing) high and low" for the actor to
play Rogan and his "extreme complex charactor arcs".

Ernst added that the pair "will take every precaution to ensure that his legacy as one of the most epic film stars to date is kept firmly intact" and Dean's family "views this as his fourth movie, a movie he never got to make. We do not intend to let his fans down."

The directors plan to re-create "a realistic version of James Dean," who will be voiced by another actor.

At the time of publication, IMDb had not revealed any other cast members.



New World Pictures, Getty Images/TNS

Shannen Doherty (from left), Lisanne Falk, Kim Walker and Winona Ryder on the set of "Heathers" in 1988. The movie, which includes hot-button topics such as bullying and teen suicide, plays differently for today's audiences than it did decades ago.

# **Taking stock of 'Heathers'**

# Actress Lisanne Falk talks about 30-year-old subversive hit movie

By RICK BENTLEY Tribune News Service

Lisanne Falk had no idea when she was making the dark comedy "Heathers" in 1988 that 31 years later she still would be talking about the film. The only thing on her mind at the time was just getting the movie made.

"I think if someone imagines that in 30 years people are still going to be talking about this movie, probably they are not," Falk says with a laugh.

There's not only talk by fans of the movie going on, but a 30th anniversary edition of "Heathers" will be released on Blu-Ray Nov. 12. The release starring Falk, Winona Ryder, Christian Slater and Shannen Doherty follows the Heathers, picture-perfect queens of the social scene at Westerburg High that everyone wants to be but also fears. Veronica (Ryder) wants to be part of the group until she meets the school's new bad boy, JD (Slater). JD (Slater).

Falk had starred in other movies dealing with young angst, including "Say

Anything" and "Less Than Zero," before being cast as Heather McNamara. She knew as soon as she started reading the "Heathers" script that the film was very different from anything she had done.

"I had been going up for a lot of afterschool specials and movies of the week, but as soon as I read this, I knew that it appealed to my dark sense of humor," Falk says. "I knew it wasn't going to be a film for everybody, but it definitely blew my mind.

"I had never in all my years of auditioning for things seen anything that was so subversive in the best way."

The appeal came from the complicated nature of her Heather. On the surface, which generally included Falk wearing a yellow wardrobe, her Heather looked to be one of the young women who ruled the school. But, as more was revealed, Falk got to show that her Heather was vulnerable despite a superficial display of confidence. Falk loved getting to play a character who went from popular to an emotional mess.

Falk also didn't realize when she was

making "Heathers" that three decades later she would have her own teenage daughter and that she would use her character to explain how in high school the people who look like they are the most confident are often the most insecure. It's that kind of element that Falk wants people to take from "Heathers" and focus less on how it deals with the topics of depression, bullying and death.

"First, the film was not made today. A millennial saw the film and wrote an article about how this film was not acceptable. It was not made today and commenting on what is happening in the

commenting on what is a world today," Falk says.

"What is universal is teen angst and all the issues teenagers relate to today because they are not looking at this as a joke but finding stuff in there that still conjures a level of emotions.

"Then you can say 'Oh my god, this is so intense, but let's kind of make fun of it because that's a way to deflate the intensity of it.' You just have to look at 'Heathers' in the time period it was made."

# Study finds more LGBTQ characters on network TV

Associated Press

"Pose" and "Batwoman" are among the shows contributing to a surge in LGBTQ and gender inclusiveness on television, according to a new study by the advocacy group GLAAD.

The percentage of regularly seen LGBTQ characters on prime-time broadcast TQ this season reached an all-time high of 10.2%, or 90 out of a total of 879 characters, according to the study released Thursday. That topped last year's record of 8.8% and achieved the 10% goal that GLAAD had set for the networks by 2020.

Series including "Pose," set in the 1980s

Series including "Pose," set in the 1980s ballroom culture and with the biggest LGBTQ cast ever for a scripted show, and "Batwoman," with the first gay superhero in a lead TV role, are signposts of TV's growing diversity and proof that "view-ers everywhere continue to respond with extreme positivity," said Sarah Kate Ellis, GLAAD president and CEO.

GLAAD is upping the stakes for the future. It's asking the industry to reach 20% representation of LGBTQ regularly seen characters on primetime scripted broadcast series by 2025, and to ensure that half of LGBTQ characters on every TV platform are people of color within the next two years.

An estimated 4.5% of adults in the United States, approximately 11.3 million people, identify as LGBTQ, according to the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law.

#### Other news

■ Oprah Winfrey has chosen Elizabeth Strout's "Olive, Again," the follow-up to Strout's Pulitzer Prize winning "Olive Kit-teridge," as her next book club read. In a statement provided Thursday to The Associated Press, Winfrey praised Strout's plain-spoken title character for teaching us "so much about loneliness, judgment, aging, and loss."

■ Mark Halperin's first book since

Mark Haperins hirst book since his career was upended by allegations of sexual harassment is clearly no "Game Change." "How to Beat Trump" sold just 502 copies in its first week. The numbers were reported Wednesday by NPD Book-Scan. The book, published Oct. 29, compiles comments from such Democratic strategists as Donna Brazile, David Axelrod and James Carville.

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# A convicted Trump could still run in 2020

By Frank O. Bowman III Special to The Washington Post

f President Donald Trump were convicted by the Senate in an impeachment trial and removed from office. could he still run for president in 2020? The possibility is remote, but the candidacy of a former President Trump could happen unless the Senate takes steps to prevent it.

The process bears examination be-cause it has never been used before. No U.S president has ever been convicted of an impeachable offense by the Senate. Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton were both impeached by the House and acquitted by the Senate. Richard Nixon resigned before the full House could vote to impeach him.

Let's begin with the Constitution itself. The American framers adapted impeachment from British parliamentary practice, in which it was sometimes thought necessary to ensure that a royal official hurled from office could not rise up later and destroy his destroyers. Therefore, conviction by the House of Lords could mean being impoverished, imprisoned or executed.

The Philadelphia delegates of 1787 wanted no transplantation of such cycles of vengeance. They embraced impeachment as necessary to protect against a president whose failings or misdeeds endangered constitutional order. But they consciously limited the consequences of conviction to "removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States."

In other words, an official impeached by the House and convicted in the Senate is

subject to only two penalties: removal from the current office, and a bar against ever again holding that or any other federal office. The Constitution goes on to say that if the conduct for which the official was impeached constituted a crime, he or she could be prosecuted for that crime, but only in a separate proceeding conducted by the regular courts.

There has been speculation in some quarters about whether Trump would voluntarily vacate his office if defeated in an election. In the event of Senate conviction in an impeachment trial, the question would be moot, at least as a constitutional matter. Removal has always been understood to be an automatic consequence of conviction. And the 25th Amendment decrees, "In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President." In short, Vice President Mike Pence would become President Mike Pence the moment 67 senatorial votes were officially tallied for any article of impeachment.

The question of whether Trump could nonetheless run for president next year is more complicated. In the impeachment of federal officials, the Senate has adopted the practice of holding a separate vote on the issue of disqualification from future federal office after it votes for conviction. Since at least the 1912 impeachment of Judge Robert Archbald, the Senate has required only a majority vote for disqualification.

If no disqualification vote is held, even a convicted official can reenter federal service. U.S. District Judge Alcee Hastings was removed from office in 1989 after he was impeached in the House for engaging in a "corrupt conspiracy" - soliciting a \$150,000 bribe in a case before him — and convicted in the Senate. But the Senate took no vote on disqualification. In 1992, Hastings ran for and won a seat from Florida in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he remains to this day.

If Trump were convicted by the Senate, but the Senate chose not to hold a disqualification vote, he could in theory run again, win and return to the White House. The path to reelection would also be open if a Senate vote favoring disqualification failed. Of course, even an impeached convicted and disqualified Trump could run for reelection, whether as a Republican or as a third-party candidate, in the sense of announcing his candidacy, tweeting madly and holding bellicose rallies. He might even be able to secure a ballot line in some primaries or in the general election. One can imagine ugly statewide quarrels between his die-hard loyalists and those insistent on enforcing the Constitution Nonetheless, once disqualified by the Senate, Trump could never legally resume the office of president.

Given the current makeup of the Repub lican-controlled Senate, Trump's conviction on articles of impeachment is unlikely. But if senators take that step, and don't want to invite even more political chaos than the country has seen over the past three years, they should finish the job and disqualify Trump from ever holding federal office again.

Frank O. Bowman III is a professor at the University of Missouri's law school, visiting professor at Georgetown University Law Center and author of "High Crimes and Misdemeanors." History of Impeachment for the Age of Trump."

# Investment in Latin America will limit migration north

BY RYAN J. O'RIORDAN AND STANLEY P. KOWALSKI Special to Stars and Stripes

he refugee crisis continues at the United States' southern border. Defensive barriers may provide temporary isolating protection.

However, this is neither a siege to be held back nor an invasion to be repelled. It is simply about survival. Driven by political, economic and societal collarse from incinient failed states, the migration north from Latin America is a hemispheric crisis.

As an initial response to manage the migrant flood, military operations may be appropriate. Still, the mission of the military is defense and related support to protect the people, territory and interests of the U.S., not police work or humanitarian assistance. Former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis summed it up, "The Department of Defense's enduring mission is to provide combat-credible military forces needed to deter war and protect the security of our nation." Throughout the last century the military and defense has been a key instrument of U.S. foreign policy. Nevertheless, many military leaders now advocate for alliances that go beyond the battlefield. They recognize that in the globalized 21st century, defense must be balanced within a broader, durable, strategic framework.

Smart power is such a balance, coordinating defense, diplomacy and development (3Ds) to achieve foreign policy goals at the lowest possible cost in terms of human, monetary and tangible resources. Currently, however, there is an imbalance of 3Ds: an overemphasis, extension and misapplication of defense, a concomitant leveraged diplomacy and an obsolete international development model, based on a 20th-century paradigm of reactive, ad-hoc aid and assistance

In the 21st century international development must refocus toward building

innovation ecosystems, with coordinated capacity building to simultaneously advance human capital, global networks, institutions and infrastructure. The goal is to stabilize developing countries by ac-celerated economic diversification, leapfrogging from commodities (agriculture, petroleum, mining), over industrialization, to innovation. For Latin America this is not only important but urgent; decades of overreliance on commodities and economic stagnation has putrefied into corruption, poverty, failed states and mass migration.

Unlike the zero-sum global struggle for raw resources, partnerships in novation-based economic development are unlimited. With Latin America, possible partnerships in development could be health innovation with Brazil, agricultural innovation with Colombia, space technology with Argentina, benefiting the entire hemisphere, fostering opportunity, pros-perity, stability and peace. A history lesson provides the policy precedent and rationale, a foundation upon which to build

The Alliance for Progress of the 1960s was a synthesis of the wisdom of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and the pragmatism of President John F. Kennedy. As a progressive, bipartisan U.S. policy initiative, the Alliance was initially conceptualized by Eisenhower and several Latin American leaders and subsequently launched by Kennedy, who understood that sustainable development in Latin America, as a bulwark against poverty, oppression and instability, required enduring hemispheric economic cooperation and partnership.

Kennedy's 1963 speech is prescient today, calling for an alliance built on the premise of a modern interconnected global economy that benefits all: "We are joined together in this Alliance as nations united by a common history and common values.

And I look forward to the day when the people of Latin America will take their place beside the United States and Western Europe as citizens of industrialized and growing and increasingly abundant societies.

Although Alliance programs were largely tangible infrastructure, agriculture and industrialization, an alliance for this century should focus on science, technology and innovation, connecting with the global knowledge economy wherein technology transfer and intellectual property transac-tions drive innovation markets. This will catalyze collaborations, access to research and development investment opportunities and capitalization across the hemisphere.

A new Alliance would likely be an ef-fort greater than the Marshall Plan in the aftermath of World War II. Whereas the Marshall Plan involved physically rebuilding industrialized countries where the human capital institutions and networks were largely intact, a new Alliance would require a massive and rapid reorientation, from a developing to a developed country innovation economic paradigm. Mobilization of human capital, the most important resource of every country as this century unfolds, is key.

It is time to reignite Kennedy's vision. A balanced U.S. foreign policy must promote strategic partnerships and accelerate innovative development across Latin America. By building good will, addressing persistent problems and stabilizing the region, this will stem the flood of humanity north. In addition, such efforts will in the short term facilitate access to critical advances in health, agriculture, energy and IT — and in the longer term, cultivate creativity, invention, innovation and legal infrastructure, fostering diversified, interconnected economies to benefit the entire hemisphere.

Ryan J. O'Riordan is a student at University of New Hampshire's Franklin Pierce School of Law. Stanley P. Kowalski is a professor at the law school and director of its International Technology Transfer Institute.

### OPINION

# What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

#### End visa roadblocks for Iragis who worked alongside GIs The Washington Post

Iraqis who worked alongside U.S. troops during the war provided "essential mission support," according to former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, a retired Marine Corps general who fought in that conflict. Iraqis served as interpreters, translators and guides. They "risked their own lives and their families' lives," Mattis said in a letter made public last year by Politico. "We owe them support for their commitment."

We do. But President Donald Trump is turning his back on Iraqis waiting for the United States to keep its promise of possible resettlement. The number of U.S.-affiliated Iragis who make it through the severe vetting process to resettlement in the United States has been reduced to a trickle of just a few hundred a year. Now the president has authorized the lowest refugee ceiling in the history of the program, 18,000 total for the current fiscal year, which will make it that much harder for the Iragis to win visas. This is a sickening coda to the war and a terrible signal that the United States will not keep its commitments.

A special immigrant visa program for the Iraqi interpreters, translators and others was closed to new applications five years ago, and those remaining timated 110,000 - must apply through the Direct Access Program, a part of the refugee admissions process. In the refugee ceiling, the president set aside 4,000 spots for these Iraqis. But the number actually admitted is expected to be far less. The strict security checks can stretch on for years and sharply limit the number who get visas. According to The New York Times, interviews have been slowed since the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad and consulate in Irbil ordered all nonessential employees out of Iraq for security reasons in May. As a result, teams of U.S. officers go to Iraq on temporary "circuit rides," and this also restricts the flow.

These interpreters and support staff did not abandon the U.S. troops during the war. One of them told the International Refugee Assistance Project last year that he had served side by side with U.S. troops in 2003 and 2004. "They became my brothers: they relied on me and I relied on them," he said.

He should not be abandoned. This is a question of duty, honor and commitment - values so often celebrated by politicians but, in this case, cruelly forsaken.

#### Wealth taxes failed in Europe, shouldn't be employed in US The Wall Street Journal

Bernie Sanders often points to Europe as his economic model, but there's one lesson from the continent that he and Elizabeth Warren want to ignore. Europe has tried and mostly rejected the wealth taxes that the two presidential candidates are now promising for America.

Sen. Warren's plan sets an annual 2% tax on assets above \$50 million, and the rate rises to 6% for billionaires. Sen. Sanders wants to tax joint filers' wealth between \$32 million and \$10 billion at rates of 1% to 8%. His advisers brag that this could wipe out half a billionaire's wealth in 15 years. The candidates say these taxes will deliver "justice" and revenue to finance their vast new spending plans. That's also what Europe's socialists said only to find it didn't



Airbnb co-founder and CEO Brian Chesky, above, said Wednesday the company is launching a 24-hour hotline for guests, neighbors and others to report problems.

■Sweden. The Nordic country had a wealth tax for most of the 20th century, though its revenue never accounted for more than 0.4% of gross domestic product in the postwar era. One reason is that the levy treated different assets differently. This distorted investment as the wealthy took on debt to buy tax-free assets. If the U.S. farm lobby convinced a President Warren to remove farmland as a taxable asset, say, prepare for a property bubble.

The relatively small Swedish tax still was enough of a burden to drive out some of the country's brightest citizens. IKEA founder Ingvar Kamprad famously left Sweden for Switzerland in the 1970s over onerous taxation. In 2007 the government repealed its 1.5% tax on personal wealth over \$200,000.

■Germany. Berlin imposed levies of 0.5% and 0.7% on personal and corporate wealth in 1978. The rate rose to 1% in 1995. but the Federal Constitutional Court struck down the wealth tax that year, and it was effectively abolished by 1997. America's Founders banned "direct taxes" not apportioned by state population. Warren argues her law isn't a direct tax, but courts would

get their say.

France. In 1982 Socialist President Francois Mitterrand imposed a wealth tax with a top rate of 1.5% on assets above \$1.5 million at the time. The tax was eliminated then reimposed several years later. In 2013 another Socialist president, Francois Hollande, tried to hit the wealthy even harder. The results? Some 70,000 millionaires

have left France since 2000, according to the South African research group New World Wealth, In 2017 French President Emmanuel Macron, a former economic adviser to Hollande, scrapped the scheme in favor of a property tax.

■Austria. One difficulty of imposing a wealth tax is figuring out how much someone is worth. Valuing securities, homes or private jets is at least relatively objective. What about modern art, racehorses or closely held companies? When Austria abolished its decades-old wealth tax in 1994, officials cited the administrative burden of calculating the exact levy.

While a dozen European states had wealth taxes in 1990, the number has fallen to three today. Nationally, Spain taxes fortunes above 700,000 euros at 0.2%, rising to 2.5% at roughly 10.7 million euros. Rates can vary among Spain's regions, but does anyone think of Madrid as an economic model? Switzerland's wealth tax hits the middle class, starting in the low six figures inside most of the country's 26 cantons. Norway taxes wealth starting at about \$170,000 at 0.85%, but the country's oil reserves have let it get away with bad economic decisions for decades.

Despite the obvious flaws, the wealth tax stays alive in the socialist mind because it is the ultimate populist envy tax. Donald Trump popped off in support of a wealth tax when weighing a 2000 presidential bid, no doubt without much thought.

The best argument against a wealth tax is moral. It is a confiscatory tax on the assets from work, thrift and investment that have already been taxed at least once as individual or corporate income, and perhaps again as a capital gain or death tax. The European experience shows that it also fails in practice. The question is how much economic damage comes first.

#### Leaving climate agreement is Trump's worst decision yet Los Angeles Times

The world is, without a doubt and without a credible opposing argument, heading pell-mell toward environmental disaster because of humanity's continuing reliance on burning fossil fuels to create energy.

Among the leading culprits is the U.S.,
which has burned coal, oil and other fossil fuels en route to developing the wealthiest economy in global history.

But instead of working with the rest of

the world to try to undo the damage, President Donald Trump is now making good on his campaign pledge to withdraw the U.S. from the 2015 Paris agreement, the effort by 195 nations to join together and try to do something about our warming climate. He submitted formal notice to the United Nations on Monday to start the yearlong process of withdrawing from the pact, though in truth, his polices have been actively undercutting it all along.

Of all the dangerous, ignorant and insupportable decisions by this administration, pulling out of the Paris agreement stands tallest. In that single act, the president is making it all the more difficult for the world to curtail emissions of carbon and other greenhouse gases that are already melting glaciers and polar ice, raising the levels of the seas, fueling larger and stronger hurricanes and other devastating storms, exacerbating — paradoxically — both droughts and floods and making areas of the Earth uninhabitable for human life

None of this is of concern to the president. who disregards the clear and overwhelming scientific consensus, the conclusions of analysts across government agencies
— including the Pentagon, which lists climate change as a national security threat — and basic common sense in his danger-ous quest to make the U.S. the world's dominant source of oil and natural gas. Even members of the oil industry have come around to recognizing the perils of their endeavors, but not Trump.

The challenge for the nation, and for the

world, is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as sharply and as quickly as possible, and even that will not be enough to avoid the effects of climate change. The Paris agreement set a global century-end target of keeping temperatures from rising by 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels, with a preferred goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius. We're already about 1 degree above pre-industrial levels, with most of that increase coming in the last 35 years.

We must do more. We must do better The Paris agreement, as insufficient as it is, stands as a crucial step by world leaders to try to save us from ourselves. The Obama administration was the main driver behind the Paris agreement, and the U.S. must be a global leader in the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Trump, instead, seeks to lead the nation in the opposite direction by expanding oil and gas production, ratcheting back fuel standards for motor vehicles and ignoring both the moral and economic imperatives of combating global warming. Even if he is defeated in 2020, this decision will cost the world valuable time we can't afford to

#### Not clear Airbnb plan would have stopped deaths at party The (San Jose, Calif.) Mercury News It's a shame that it took the fatal shoot-

ings of five people at a Halloween party in Orinda, Calif., last week to wake up Airbnb to potential problems with its short-term rentals.

The question is what the online property booking firm plans to do about it. The answer should start with more vigilance - a lot more.

More than 100 people showed up for a party at a rental house that was supposed to be occupied by no more than 13. The house had been the subject of neighbor complaints earlier this year, and city officials had issued warnings to the property owner. Yet no one stopped the booking last week. And when complaints started rolling in, Orinda police were slow to respond. This was a tragedy that should have been prevented.

There's plenty of blame to go around: The renter who lied about the planned use. The property owner who failed to vet the renter. The police who took well over an hour to respond to neighbor complaints at an address that was already known to law enforcement as a problem location.

To its credit, the company is now trying to be proactive. "We are banning 'party houses' and we are redoubling our efforts to combat unauthorized parties and get rid of abusive host and guest conduct, including conduct that leads to the terrible events we saw in Orinda," CEO Brian Chesky announced Saturday on Twitter.

Chesky said the company will expand its manual screening of high-risk reservations flagged by the company's risk-detection technology; create a dedicated "party house" rapid response team; crack down more quickly on abusive renters; and initiate a "10 day sprint" to develop and implement the new measures. OK, but it's not at all clear any of that would have prevented last week's tragedy. Large parties were already prohibited at the property.

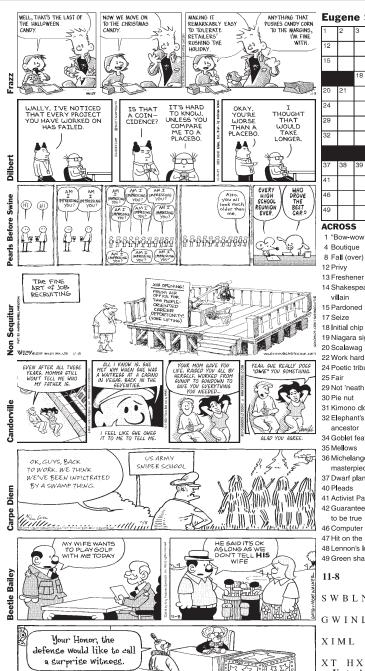
If Airbnb, which did not respond to our request to discuss its new plans, is serious about cracking down, it should start with flagging and blocking problem listings, like the one in Orinda. For that, Airbnb needs an open and direct line of communication with the cities.

San Francisco has imposed registration rules on rental properties that have led to coordination between that city and the company. But Airbnb has no communication with cities like Orinda, which also has a short-term occupancy ordinance.

It should, starting with a violations hotline [Chesky announced Wednesday that the company would launch a 24-hour hotline Dec. 31] that cities can use to report problems. Had Airbnb known about the troubled history of the Orinda property, it could have flagged last week's rental more carefully.

Maybe that would have been enough to

save five lives.



RIZARRO COM

Fadebook.com/BizarroComics

#### **Eugene Sheffer Crossword**

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DOWN

4 III will

1 TV alien

2 Aussie hopper

3 Food seekers

5 Bee's home

7 Signing need

6 Indivisible

8 Capital of

Rwanda

10 Alike (Fr)

9 British noble

16 Wildebeests

19 Twain hero

20 Leeway

11 High tennis shots

21 Classic theaters

22 Mexican snacks

- 1 "Bow-wow!"
- 4 Boutique 8 Fall (over)
- 12 Privy
- 13 Freshener scent
- 14 Shakespeare
  - villain
- 17 Seize
- 18 Initial chip
- 19 Niagara sight
- 20 Scalawag
- 22 Work hard
- 24 Poetic tributes
- 29 Not 'neath
- 31 Kimono closer
- 32 Elephant's
- ancestor
- 34 Goblet feature
- 35 Mellows
- 36 Michelangelo
- masterpiece
- 37 Dwarf planet
- 40 Pleads
- 41 Activist Parks
- to be true
- 46 Computer brand
- 47 Hit on the noggin
- 48 Lennon's love 49 Green shade
- 11-8

- 23 Algerian port 51 Uncivilized 25 Give up
  - 26 Selects on
  - a ballot
  - 27 Help a crook 28 - bean

  - 30 Comic strip
  - possum
  - 33 Golden Horde people
  - 34 Unuttered
  - "alas"

  - 36 Bushel quarters
  - 37 Baby carriage
  - 38 Crazv
  - 39 Exploits
  - 40 Chianons
  - 42 TiVo precursor
  - 43 Tic-tac-toe win
  - 44 "- Clear Day"
  - 45 Squabble

Answer to Previous Puzzle



#### CRYPTOQUIP

SWBLNZJGZMC OLSGW JRNJ

GWINLGNOPE DRXXJD X W M

XW

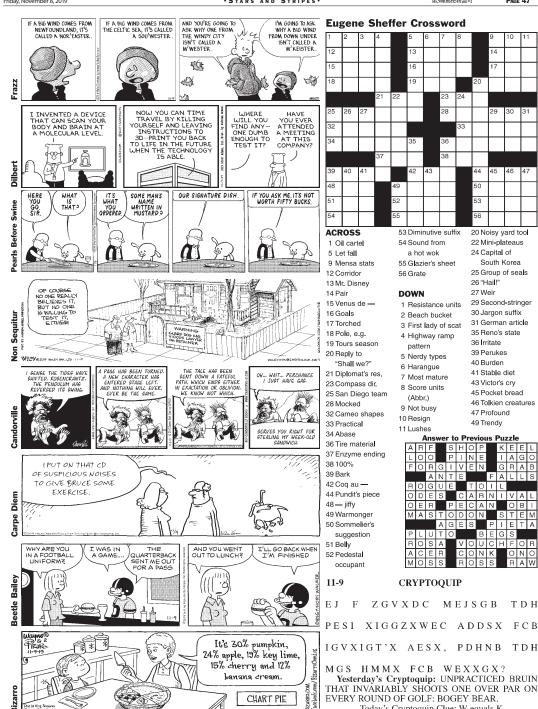
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BNL

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE ECCENTRIC MAN DECIDED HE WOULD ONLY CONSUME COINS AND PAPER MONEY. HE WENT ON A CASH DIET. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals U



#### **Eugene Sheffer Crossword**

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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51				52					53			
54				55					56			

- 5 Let fall
- 9 Mensa stats
- 12 Corridor
- 13 Mr. Disney 14 Pair
- 15 Venus de -
- 16 Goals
- 17 Torched
- 18 Pole, e.g.
- 19 Tours season 20 Reply to
- "Shall we?"
- 21 Diplomat's res.
- 23 Compass dir. 25 San Diego team
- 28 Mocked 32 Cameo shapes
- 33 Practical
- 34 Abase
- 36 Tire material
- 37 Enzyme ending
- 38 100%
- 39 Bark
- 42 Coq au -
- 44 Pundit's piece
- 48 iiffv
- 49 Warmonger
- 50 Sommelier's
- suggestion
- 51 Belly
- 52 Pedestal occupant

- 54 Sound from
  - a hot wok
- 55 Glazier's sheet
- 56 Grate

#### DOWN

- 1 Resistance units
- 2 Beach bucket
- 3 First lady of scat
- 4 Highway ramp
- pattern 5 Nerdy types
- 6 Harangue
- 7 Most mature
- 8 Score units
- (Abbr.)
- 9 Not busy
- 10 Resign

- 11 Lushes

- 47 Profound 49 Trendy

22 Mini-plateaus

South Korea

25 Group of seals

29 Second-stringer

31 German article

30 Jargon suffix

35 Reno's state

36 Irritate

39 Perukes

40 Burden

41 Stable diet

43 Victor's cry

45 Pocket bread

46 Tolkien creatures

24 Capital of

26 "Hail!"

27 Weir

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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PDHNB

TDH

#### CRYPTOQUIP

EJZGVXDC MEJSGB TDH

PESI XIGGZXWEC ADDSX F C B

MGS HMMX FCB WEXXGX?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: UNPRACTICED BRUIN

EVERY ROUND OF GOLF: BOGEY BEAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals K

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- \$5,000.00 - 72,409 miles
(116,531km) German Spec.
Newly Inspected, it is good unit
05 Sept. 2020 Manual Dissel
with (green 4 sticker) Electric
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Schedule

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FAR WEST
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Saturday's games
EAST

UMass at Army
Florida St. at Boston College
St. Francis (Pa.) at CCSU
Lafayette at Holy Cross
North Alabama at Monmouth (NJ)
Wagner at Sacred Heart
Texas Tech at West Virginia
Yale at Brown
Lehigh at Bucknell
Fordham at Collegie
Harvard at Collumbia Harvard at Columbia Albany (NY) at Delaware NC A&T at Morgan St. Duquesne at Robert Morris Richmond at Villanova

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Kennesaw St. at Campbell

Will at Furnan

Gardiner-Webb at William & Mary

Howard at SC State

Jackson St. at Alabama A&M

Norfolk St. at NC Central

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Va. Lynchburg at Southern U.
Hampton at Charleston Southern
Fill at FAU
Missouri at Georgia
Lamar at Northwestern St.
Appalachian St. at South Carolina
Notre Dame at Duke
Tennessee at Kentucky
Clemson at NC State

MIDWEST
Davidson at Butler

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#### Pro football

#### NFL injury report

NEW YORK - The National Football 

ARTONA C. SUNDAY ST TAMPA BJY
BUCAMEERS — CARDINALS. DIPP. DE
Zach Allen (neck), GE Tramaine Brock
Amastring), BE Chase Edmonds (hamstring), WR Larry Etzperald (not injury
celated), OT Justin Murray (knee). LB
Terrell Suggs (hamstring). LIMITED: DT
Terrell Suggs (hamstring). LIMITED: DT
Brooks Reed (hamstring). EATING
ATT (LR BD avid
Johnson (ankle). BUCCAMEERS: DNP: LB
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Carl Nassib (grovin). LE Antrony Nelson
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BUFFALO BILLS at CLEVELAND BROWNS

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CR Nate Hairston (thumb/knee/neck) G

CB Nate Hairston (thumb/inee/neck), G
Alfa. Lewis Gelbow/neck).
ATLANTA FALCOMS at NEW OBLEANS
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(back), CB Amani Oruvariye (bree), CB Eddie Goldman (Thigh). It Stain Inving (Guadricen).

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FERRIS EAMS: Practice Not Complete.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS at DALLAS

COWBOYS - VIKINGS: DN. PR C.J. Ham

(ankle), DE Head Octolipho (shoulder),

TED: CB Trace Waynes (ankle), DE Steephen Weatherly (groin), FULL: DT Linval

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#### Deals

# Wednesday's transactions

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assessal.

American Sales and Sales and

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
ATLANTA HAWKS — Transferred Candon Goodwin to College Park (NBA FOOTBALL

National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed DL
Clinton McDonald on IR. Released LB
Zach Brown. Activated OL Max Garcia
from the PUP list.

Zach Brown. Activated Ol. Max. Garcia from the PUB isCoNS — Signed WR Brandon Powell from the practice squad and 6 Anthony Coyle and S C.J. Reavis to the practice squad. The practice squad. The practice squad of Common to the practice squad. The practice squad with practice squad. The practice squad. Signed RB Devantony Thomas. Re-signed LB Mike Devanton to the practice squad. Signed RB BUFFALO BILLS — Released DE Wyst Hay Signed to It Type 10 of Signed Devanton with the practice squad. The practice squad with the practice squad. The practice squad was the practice squad.

Wes Horton.

DETROIT LIONS — Released LB Anthony Pittman from the practice squad. Signed RB Bo Scarbrough and P Matt Wile to the practice squad.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Activated QB Nick Foles from IR.

QB Nick Foles from IR.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Released P
Jack Fox from the practice squad. Signed
TE Alize Mack to the practice squad.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Claimed S Andrew Sendejo off waivers from Philadelphia. Waived S Marcus Epps.

NEW YORK GIANTS - Released P Sean nith from the practice squad.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Placed WR
Sean Jackson on IR. Waived S Andrew

ndejo. PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed LB PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed LB Ulysees Gilbert III on IR. Released RB Dar-rin Hall from the practice squad. Signed LB Robert Spillane from the practice squad and LB Sutton Smith, WR Terry Wright and TE Kevin Rader to the prac-

Wright and TE Kevin Rader to the practice squad.

SAM FRANCISCO 49EBS — Placed LB

KNOW A RESAMDER OF RIS. Signed LB EllROW A RESAMDER OF RIS. Signed LB EllBOOK A RESAMDER OF RESAMDE

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — WAIVEU
WR AMARA DATBON, Placed TE Antony Au-clair on IR. Signed LB Sam Acho. Signed
LB Kahzin Daniels from the practice
squad and LB Quinton Bell to the prac-

Squad and LB Quinton Bell to the practice squad.

MOCKEY

National Hockey League

ANAHEM DUCKS - Reassigned D Josh

ANAHEM DUCKS - Reassigned D Josh

CAROLINA, HUBRICANES - Recalled F elect Locatarine from Charlotte (AHL). C
Robby Fabber from the St. Louis Blues for Jacob de Is ROS-PITALS - Reassigned

F Liam O'Brien to Hershey (AHL). SOCCER

SOCCER

MID-AMERICAN COMFERENCE - Announced the University of Betton's womference for the 2020-21 school year.

CILIVERS TOCKTON - Women's vol
ference for the 2020-21 school year.

CILIVERS TOCKTON - Women's vol
his resignation.

nis resignation.

HAWAII — Announced men's basket-ball coach Eran Ganot is taking a medical leave of absence. Named Chris Gerlufsen acting men's basketball coach.

#### College basketball

#### Wednesday's men's scores

Results As I mell's Scures

EAST
Boston College 77, Wake Forest 70
Colgate 80, 1317 75
Georgetown 81, Mont 8t. Mary's 68
Pittsburgh 63, Florida 8t. 61
San Jose 8t. 79, Hofstra 71
St. John's 109, Mercer 79
Virginia 48, Syracuse 34
SOUTH

St. John S. Job, Mercer 19
Bethune Cookman 110, John S. John S

FAR WEST Arizona 91, N. Arizona 9

Arizona 91, N. Arizona 52 New Mexico 92, E. New Mexico 71 Stanford 73, Montana 62 UC Santa Barbara 83, Jackson St. 62 UCLA 69, Long Beach St. 65

#### Men's schedule Friday's games

Oakland vs. Delaware at Kissimmee, Fla. United States Merchant Marine Acadny at Army Sacred Heart at UConn Sacred Heart at UConn Dartmouth at Buffalo William & Mary at American U. Bryn Athyn at Towson Akron at West Virginia Oberlin at Yale Vermont at St. Bonaventure Mass.-Lowell at LIU Brooklyn

Mass.-Lowell at LIU Brooklyn Rider at Delaware St. Niagara at Drexel Harvard at Northeastern East Carolina at Navy Columbia International at Mercer Truett-McConnell at SC-Upstate Johnson (FL) L3 Jacksonville, Md. Radford at Liberty Radford at Liberty North Carolina at UNC-Wilmington Loyola of Chicago at Furman Charleston Southern at NC A&T St. Francis (Pa.) at Richmond

St. Francis (Ph.) at Richmond III.-Chicago at Memphis Marist at WMI Morth Read at WMI North Texas at WCI Longwood at George Mason Penn State Wilkers-Barre at Norfolk St. Penn State Wilkers-Barre at Norfolk St. Penn State Wilkers-Barre at Norfolk St. Refutucky at Rethrucky at Rethrucky at Rethrucky at Rethrucky at Rethrucky at Rethrucky at Milligan at Elon General St. at Duke Milligan at Elon Central Penn College at Campbell Central Penn College at Campbell Central Penn College at Coastal arolina.

Central Pern College at Campoin control of the Cont

aska Incarnate Word at N. Colorado Cal Poly at Santa Clara, 10 p.m. California Lutheran at California Baptist Simpson at Sacramento St. Arizona St. vs. Colorado at Shanghai Portland at Southern Cal

#### Saturday's games EAST

Saturday agames

Cent. Arkansas at Georgetown
Nicholis at Pittsburgh
Widsas at Fartheid nampshire
Sulvi-Polytechnic Institute at Boston U. Larlayette at St. Francis Brooklyn
Story Brook at Setton Hall
Howard at George Washington
CCSU at St. John's
CSU at St. John's
Monmouth (NJ) at Hofstra
Iona at La Salle
Nonmouth (NJ) at Hofstra
Iona at La Salle
Non at Providence
In a Strong Brown

Non at Providence

Non at

NJIT at Providence
Caralisia at Brown W
Caralisia at Brown W
Gettysburg at Mount St. Mary's
Rhode Island at Maryland
Gardner-Webba Zuk. Carolina
Alcorn St. at Louisiana-Monroe
UNC-Asheville at The Citadel
UNC-Asheville at The Citadel
UNC Asheville at UCF
UNBC at Florida Guif Coast
UNBC at Florida Guif Coast
UNBC at Victoria Guif Co

Tennessee St. at Chattanooga High Point at Worldow's Light Point at Worldow's E. McNeese St. at Louisiana-Lafayette McNeese St. at Louisiana-Lafayette McNeese St. at Louisiana-Lafayette Martin Methodis at Tennessee Tech Southern McNeese Tech Southern Tech Southern

Ball St. at Evansville
UW-Stout at Green Bay
UW-Stout at Green Bay
UW-Stout at Green Bay
UW-Stout at Green Bay
Stetson at W. Illinois
WIMC at Cikladoma St.
Bethune-Cookman at Texas Tech
Tulsa at Texas-Arington
FAR WES
Florida As-Arington
FAR WES
Florida As-Breen
Florida Green
Florida G Ark.-Pine Bluff at Gonzaga CS Northridge at New Mexico Princeton at San Francisco E. Washington at Seattle S. Dakota St. at CS Bakersfield Loyola Marymount at Nevada Boise St. at Oregon Cal St.-Fullerton at Stanford

#### Wednesday's women's scores

EAST George Washington 68, Villanova 56 Hofstra 43, Hartford 41 Lehigh 68, Delaware St. 38 Seton Hall 95, Sacred Heart 69 SOUTH

Auburn 84, Wofford 82 Belmont 63, Chattanooga 50 Belmont 63, Chattanooga 50 Clemson 77, Furman 69 E. Kentucky 69, N. Kentucky 62 George Mason 72, Coll. of Charleston 61 Hampton 64, Alabama 61 James Madison 93, Longwood 53 Middle Tennessee 68, East Carolina 66 NC State 80, NC A&T 44 UCF 74, Pittsburgh 58 MIDWEST

UGF 74, Pittsburgh 58
Bowling GreeMON Catwelland St. 52
Green fay 111, Cent. Michigan 105
Milwaukee St. Wis.-Parkside 77
N. Iowa 55, N. Diskota 51, 53
Milwaukee St. Wis.-Parkside 77
N. Iowa 55, N. Diskota 51, 53
Milwaukee St. Wis.-Parkside 77
N. Iowa 56, N. Diskota 51, 53
Milwaukee St. Milwa 54
Milwa 54, Milwa 54
Mi

#### Pro soccer

#### MLS playoffs

Conference Semifinals
Eastern Conference
Wednesday, Oct. 23
Toronto 2, New York City 1
Thursday, Oct. 24
Atlanta 2, Philadelphia 0 Atlanta 2, Philadelphia 0
Western Conference
Wednesday, Oct. 23
Seattle 2, Salt Lake 0

Thursday, Oct. 24
Los Angeles 5, LA Galaxy 3
Conference Championships
Tuesday, Oct. 29
Seattle 3, Los Angeles 1
Wednesday, Oct. 30
Toronto 2, Atlanta 1
Sunday, Nov. 10
Toronto 2, So.

Toronto at Seattle

#### NHI

#### Scoreboard

#### Eastern Conference Atlantic Division GP W L OT Pts GF GA

Boston	15	11	2	2	24	56	36					
Buffalo	15	9	4	2	20	45	40					
Toronto	16	8	5	3	19	56	53					
Florida	14	7	3	4	18	51	51					
Montreal	15	8	5	2	18	56	49					
Tampa Bay	13	6	5	2	14	44	47					
Ottawa	14	4	9	1	9	38	48					
Detroit	17	4	12	1	9	35	68					
Metropolitan Division												
Washington	16	11	2	3	25	64	49					
N.Y. Islanders	14	11	3	0	22	44	30					
Carolina	15	9	5	1	19	50	42					
Pittsburgh	15	8	6	1	17	51	39					
Philadelphia	14	7	5	2	16	47	46					
N.Y. Rangers	13	6	6	1	13	42	43					
Columbus	15	5	7	3	13	35	52					
New Jersey	13	4	5	4	12	38	51					

#### Western Conference

	Cen	tral	Divi	sion									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA						
St. Louis	17	11	3	3	25	54	49						
Nashville	15	9	4	2	20	60	43						
Colorado	15	8	4 5 7	2	18	49	43						
Winnipeg	16	8	7	1	17	44	51						
Dallas	17	8	8	1	17	41	42						
Chicago	14	4	7	3	11	33	44						
Minnesota	15	5	9	ī	11	37	51						
Pacific Division													
Edmonton	17	10	5	2	22	48	46						
Vancouver	15	-9	3	3	21	54	36						
Arizona	15	9		3 2	20	44	34						
Vegas	16		4 5 7	2	20	51	46						
Calgary	18	9	7	2	20	52	53						
Anaheim	17	9	7	ī	19	45	43						
San Jose	16	5	10	ī	11	40	58						
Los Angeles	15	5	10	ô	10	39	60						
Note: Tw	ດກດ	ints	for a		ı. on	e no	oint						
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Note: Iwo points for a win, one point each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

N.Y. Issueddy's games
N.Y. Issueddy's games
Philadelphia 4, Carolina 1
Vegas 2, Columbus 1
Montreal 5, Boaton 468: 1
New Jersey 2, Winnipeg 1, 50
Dallas 4, Colorado 1
Dallas 4, Colorado 1
Dallas 4, Colorado 1
Dallas 4, Colorado 1
St. Louis 2, Vannouver 1, 07
San Jose 4, Chicago 2
Minnesote 4, Arabletim 2
Minnesote 4, Arabletim 2
N.Y. Rangers 5, Defroit 1
St. Louis 5, Edmonton 2
N.Y. Rangers 5, Defroit 1
St. Louis 5, Edmonton 2
N.Y. Rangers 4 Carolina
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders

N.Y. Rangers at Carolina Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders Montreal at Philadelphia Washington at Florida Vegas at Toronto Los Angeles at Ottawa Vancouver at Chicago Nashville at Colorado Columbus at Arizona New Jersey at Calgary Minnesota at San Jose Friday's games

Minnesota at San Jose
Friday's games
Tampa Bay vs. Buffalo at Stockholm
Boston at Detroit
Vancouver at Winnipeg
New Jersey at Edmonton
Saturday's games
Florida N.Y. Islander's Stockholm

riorida at N.Y. Islanders Buffalo vs. Tampa Bay at Stockholm Los Angeles at Montreal Chicago at Pittsburgh Philadelphia at Tonto Carolina at Ottawa Vegas at Washington Vegas at Washington Minnesota at Arizona Columbus at Colorado St. Louis at Calgary Nashville at San Jose

Nashville at san Jose
Sunday's games
Florida at N.Y. Rangers
Dallas at Winnipeg
New Jersey at Vancouver
Vegas at Detroit
Toronto at Chicago
Philadelphia at Boston
Edmonton at Anaheim

#### Leaders Goal scoring

8

+/-15

ame, Team avid Pastrnak, Boston Name, Teamak, Boston Leon Parisakil, Edmonton Auston Matthews, Toronto Auston Matthews, Toronto Alex Overchic, Meshington Elias Lindholm, Calgary Brad Marchand, Boston Brad Marchand, Boston Serial Marchand, Boston Roupe Hintz, Dallas Jonathan Huberdeau, Florida Jonathan Huberdeau, Florida Anthony Mantha, Detroit Reilly Smith, Vego Calgary Jakub Vrana, Washington Nick Bonino, Nashville Erik Haula, Carpina Manue, Teamak, Mashington Nick Bonino, Nashville Erik Haula, Carpina

Name, Team Jean-Gabriel Pageau, Ottawa Zdeno Chara, Boston John Carlson, Washington Mattias Ekholm, Nashville Mathew Barzal, N.Y. Islanders Ryan Ellis, Nashville Radko Gudas, Washington Zack Kassian, Edmonton Michal Kempny, Washington Zack Kassian, Edmonton Michal Kempny, Washington Rickard Rakell, Anaheim Patrice Bergeron, Boston Nick Bonino, Nashville Brian Dumoulin, Pittsburgh Adam Henrique, Anaheim Jared McCann, Pittsburgh

#### Around the league

# **Getzlaf reaches games milestone**

# **Longtime Ducks** captain plays in 1.000th contest

By GREG BEACHAM Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. Ryan Getzlaf had spent his career in a cold-weather hockey hotbed instead of sunny Southern California, the profile of the Anaheim Ducks' longtime captain might loom much larger over his era in the game.

Getzlaf is perfectly happy to make his mark by the beach, and it gets bigger every year.

Getzlaf played in the 1,000th game of a career spent entirely in Anaheim on Sunday, becoming the first player in the history of this 26-year-old club to hit the mark.

The playmaking center celebrated his latest milestone in front of the family and fans who understand what he means to the city and its team. The Ducks' game against the Chicago Blackhawks also was the 2,000th in franchise history, meaning Getzlaf had been their man in the middle for exactly half of all the games they've played since 1993.

"I've been here a long time, and it was a very warm welcome, Getzlaf said afterward, "I was a little emotional during the game. It was a little bit embarrassing. I'm not very good at those things, but it was great to see the family



Anaheim Ducks center Ryan Getzlaf became the first player in the 26-year history of the franchise to play in his 1,000th career game. The 34-year-old captain has played his entire career for the Ducks.

and have everybody here.'

The 34-year-old Getzlaf has spent his whole adult life in Orange County, growing from a rambunctious Canadian prairie kid into a married father who doesn't party quite so much anymore. His four children surprised him with a tribute video before his landmark game, and the Ducks played it again when they held a pregame ceremony to honor the achievement before his 1,001st game Tuesday against Minnesota.

His parents also came into town from Saskatchewan to celebrate a milestone in a career that doesn't appear to be slowing, even as it hits four digits.

"I think it has been a great privilege for everyone around here watching that young man grow up," Ducks coach Dallas Eakins said. "He has been given much by the organization, and he has given everything that he has hack

#### Chara's milestone

Getzlaf wasn't the only NHI. veteran rolling over zeros on his career odometer recently: Zdeno Chara, the Boston Bruins' year-old captain, played in his 1,500th career game in Montreal on Tuesday night.

Canadiens fans honored the moment with a significant ovation - which is about as good as it will ever get for one of their home team's longest-running antagonists.

Chara is the 21st player and sixth defenseman including former Bruins captain Ray Bourque - in NHL history to reach 1,500 games. The 6-foot-9 Slovak joins Patrick Marleau and Joe Thornton as the only active players to hit the mark.

"It's a lot of games, (but) obviously I'm feeling very humble about it," he told reporters in Montreal. "I've been very lucky, and I'm very grateful I've been able to be in the right place at the right time, and get to know some very special people along the

way Chara made his NHL debut with the Islanders in November 1997 - a month before the birth of his current blue line partner, Charlie McAvoy. Chara has been Boston's captain since 2006, and

he won the Norris Trophy in 2009 and the Stanley Cup in 2011. Chara has said he has no interest in retiring anytime soon, and he is still in Boston's top defensive pairing. He is likely to hit 1,000 career games with the Bruins by

the midway point of this season. "I love this game," he said. "The game gave me so much. I just enjoy every day, being along with my teammates and go out there and perform. I just love competing, and I have extreme passion for the sport."

#### Rinne still solid

Nashville's Pekka Rinne (8-0-2) became the first goalie in NHL history to post a season-opening noint streak of 10 or more games at age 36 or older. Rinne turned 37 years old last Sunday, and he continues to put up superb numbers in his 12th full season in the

A good chunk of Rinne's success should go toward defensemen Roman Josi (5-11-16) and Ryan Ellis (2-13-15), who have become the sixth pair of teammate defensemen since 1991-92 to produce a point-per-game pace through their first 15 contests Josi, who just got a \$72.8 million contract extension to stay in Nashville, has put up five goals and 11 assists, while Ellis has two goals and 13 assists.

AP sports writer Teresa M. Walker in Nashville contributed.



PAUL CHIASSON, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

The Boston Bruins' Zdeno Chara acknowledges applause from the crowd for his 1.500th career game, during the first period of Tuesday's game against the Canadiens in Montreal.

# HIGH SCHOOL: DODEA PACIFIC

# **Humphreys gets another shot at Kadena**

Stars and Strines

KADENA AIR BASE, Okina-- Humpreys football coach Steven Elliott says his players have had one thing on their minds since they walked off the field on the short end of a 6-0 score in their regular-season opener Sept. 14 at Kadena: Make amends.

"It's been the fuel for us this season," he said Thursday, two days before the Blackhawks square off in the Far East Division I final against those same Panthers.

"Ever since that game ended, we've been saying that's probably who we'll face in the championship game. That fueled us throughout the year. They have not forgotten that loss."

It will be the first time the Blackhawks (4-1) have played for the D-I title, but Humphreys is hardly new to Far East championships, having played for the Division II title in 2016 and 2017. beating Perry at home in the latter. Humphreys became a D-I school in 2018-19.

As for the Panthers (6-0), playing for D-I titles has become a tradition. Kadena has the most DODEA Pacific football finals appearances with 12 and the most overall championships with six.

As many times as they've reached the pinnacle of DODEA Pacific football, coach Sergio Mendoza said he thinks this may





Division I championship Humphreys (4-1) at Kadena (6-0) 5 p.m. Saturday

be Kadena's most surprising run at the title.

"Especially that we lost 18 seniors last spring." Mendoza said. "What more could they have done to get us to this position to win a Far East championship? They really stepped up. I didn't expect it, but they earned it."

Kickoff is at 5 p.m. Saturday at

Kadena Air Base

Humphrevs will bring a balanced spread attack to the table, triggered by junior quarterback Deontaye Gregory, his wide receiver older brother, Junior, and senior running backs Brenton Carver and David Key.

While Humphreys has stayed largely injury-free this season (Junior Gregory has nursed an ankle the past few weeks), Kadena has gone through a bevy of running backs to replace an injured one: Markell Shelton for Alfonso Mendez for Trent Fowler.



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Junior QB Deontaye Gregory leads the Blackhawks' balanced spread attack in Saturday's title game.

All three might be available on Saturday.

"They've shown incredible resiliency and a willingness to keep fighting under tough circumstances, and various players have stepped up when we've had injuries," Mendoza said.

What will it take for the Panthers to beat the Blackhawks a second time?

"We have to keep to our details, stick to fundamentals and stay focused, play to play, and not take a play off," Mendoza said.

"You have a championship

game, two teams in it to the end. who will not stop until the final whistle," Elliott said. "You have to play four full quarters of football. This team has shown it can do it on numerous occasions."

ornauer.dave@stripes.com Twitter @daveornauer

# Zama, Perry have fixes to make for title game

By DAVE ORNAUER Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STA-TION IWAKUNI, Japan — As well as Zama played in the 2018 regular season, the Trojans didn't count on special teams errors that led to their 24-20 loss to Osan in the Far East Division II title

As strongly as Perry's ground game was entering its first meeting at Zama two weeks ago, the Samurai didn't count on losing leading rusher Matthew Torrecillas to a separated shoulder early in the 36-14 loss to the Trojans.

Those are some of the memories both squads will try to erase when the Samurai visit the Trojans for the second time in 14 days. This time, each will also chase the D-II title, Zama its first since 2012 and Perry its first since the school's initial championship in 2016.

Kickoff is at 7 p.m. Friday at Zama.

Torrecillas is not the only Samurai to miss playing time; Perry lost four starters at various points of the season, but coach Frank Macias says the team has enough backups to bridge those gaps.

"Our motto is 'Next man up,'"
Macias said. "We have more depth than last year. We're just going to keep going. Samurai is about team and getting nasty in the trenches; that's where games



JACK HIGBEE/Special to Stars and Stripes

Tim Matelski threw 15 touchdown passes this season for Zama after transferring from Hawaii — and had not played football in six years.

are won and lost."

Senior Marshall China will pick up most of the workload in the backfield along with Roy Clayton. Eli Carrera will replace Torrecillas, who led the Samurai in yards

We have a team that's clicking on all cylinders, as we had hoped for. 7

> Scott Bolin Zama coach

and touchdowns this season.

"Marshall won it in his first ear and he would like to go out the way he came in," Macias said. "And I'd like to give that to him."

Unlike the Trojans team that simply tried to outscore its foes in 2018, Zama this season has pieced together what coach Scott Bolin calls the most complete team in his five seasons. The Trojans are able to score on all sides of the ball, led by left-handed senior triggerman Tim Matelski.

"It's taken awhile to get to this place." Bolin said.

'Our offense grabbed lightning in a bottle this season, our defense is lights-out good and our special teams has always been able to get us in good field position. We have a team that's clicking on all cylinders, as we had hoped for," he

That by itself isn't enough, Bolin said, knowing the attack the Samurai will implement.

You have three or four guys who get you the yards you need, Bolin said. "I have no doubt Frank will have his team prepared.

So, what will it take for the Sam-





Division II championship Perry (4-1) at Zama (5-0) 7 p.m. Friday

urai to beat the Trojans? Keeping the ball out of Zama's hands. Macias said.

"It's no secret we're at our best when we can chew up minutes,' Macias said. "Seven to eight minutes, 12 to 15 plays at a time. If we can play keep-away, that's going to keep them from scoring."

Bolin says anything that happened before doesn't count for

"They're going to throw everything they have at us to (win) it " Bolin said, "Everybody wants the banner. Only one team can get

#### NBA



Associated Press LOS ANGELES he NBA was banking on Zion Williamson and the Golden State Warriors as main attractions when the television schedules were released in August. Less than three weeks into the season, the league's television partners are still trying to assess the fallout from injuries. Williamson's knee injury

and Steph Curry's broken hand have many wondering if ratings will suffer. In the case of the New Orleans Pelicans, there is cause

for worry. The Pelicans on either ESPN, TNT or NBATV in all but eight of their first 19 games. The league routinely frontloads television appear-ances with the top picks early, figuring their teams will not be in contention after the All-Star break Despite also having Brandon Ingram and Lonzo Ball, New Orleans hasn't been a big TV draw without Williamson. Their opener against To-

ronto on Opening Night averaged 2.25 million viewers on TNT, which was a 24% drop from last year's opener between Philadelphia and Boston. It was also the first time since 2016 that the league's opener went up against Game 1 of the World Series.

Last Thursday's game against Oklahoma City also was down sharply compared to the same window last season. The 784,000 average was a 60% drop from last year's Nuggets-Lakers game.

How much of a ratings hit the depleted Warriors will take will start to be known beginning this week. Golden State will be on ESPN four times over the next two weeks, which began with Wednesday's road loss to Houston. The others are Nov. 13 at the Lakers, Nov. 15 vs. Boston and at Dallas on Nov 20

The Warriors' first national broadcast on Oct. 24 against the Los Angeles Clippers averaged 2.26 million, but that was down compared to the same window last year, which was LeBron James' debut with the

Lakers (3.31 million). TNT isn't scheduled to air another Warriors game until Jan. 16 against Denver. But that will mark the first of 11 appearances until the end of the season.

A Turner spokes-man told The As-Press sociated that it is still early to discuss scheduling change with the league. changes

The league has become more flexible with ESPN and TNT about schedulchanges, but in the case of TNT there are few options available due to Thursday's light schedule

Charles Barklev said during a recent "Inside the NBA" luncheon in Los Angeles that "there are some nights when we come in and we know it is going to be a long night due to the matchups. That's when we know we have to be more entertaining."

ESPN has more games to choose from on Wednesday and Friday nights, but any changes are unlikely until January since production and travel schedules are pretty set.

Not all NBA ratings news is bad, though. The Clippers-Lakers opener on Oct. 22 was the highest-viewed game of the week at 3.58 million while both of ESPN's games on Oct. 23 were up 9% and 12% from last season.

Top: New Orleans Pelicans rookie forward Zion Williamson, who is recovering from knee surgery. Left: Golden State Warriors' All-Star guard Stephen Curry will miss at least three months with a broken left hand.

#### Scoreboard

#### Eastern Conference Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB								
Boston	5	1	.833	_								
Philadelphia	5	2	.714	1/2								
Toronto	5	2	.714	1/9								
Brooklyn	5	4	.429	21/2								
New York	ī	7	.125	5								
Southeast Division												
Miami	5	2	.714	_								
Charlotte	4	3	.571	1								
Atlanta	3	4	.429	2								
Washington	2	5	.286	3								
Orlando	2	6	.250	31/2								
Central		n										
Milwaukee	6	2	.750	_								
Indiana	4	4	.500	2								
Detroit	4	5	444	21/2								
Chicago	3	6	.333	31/2								
Cleveland	4 3 2	5	.286	31/2								

Southv	vest Divisi			
	w	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	5 5 4	3	.714	-
Houston	5	3	.625	1/2
San Antonio	4	3	.571	1
Memphis	2	5	.286	3
New Orleans	1	6	.143	4
Northy	est Divisi	on		
Denver	5	2	.714	_
Utah	5	3	.625	1/9
Minnesota	5 4 3	3 4 4	.571	1
Portland	3	4	.429	2 2
Oklahoma City	3	4	.429	2
Pacif	ic Division	1		
I.A. Lakers	6	1	.857	_
Phoenix	5	2	.714	1
L.A. Clippers		3	.625	11/2
Golden State	5	6	.250	41/2
Sacramento	5 2 2	6	.250	41/2
Tuesd	ay's game		.250	4/2

Atlanta 108, San Antonio 100 L.A. Lakers 118, Chicago 112 Oklahoma City 102, Orlando 94 Denver 109, Miarni 89 Wednesday's games Detroit 122, New York 102

Detroit Wednesday's games Indiana 12, Meshington 16 Chicago 113, Atlanta 31 Houston 129, Golden State 112 Toronto 124, Sacramento 120 Utah 106, Philadelphia 104 Utah 106, Philadelphia 104, Philadelphia

Golden State at Minnesota Toronto at New Orleans New York at Dallas Milwaukee at Utah

Milwaukee at Utah
Philadelphia at Denver
Brooklyn at Portland
Miami at La. Lakers
Saturday's games
Boston at San Antonio
New Orleans at Charlotte
Dallas at Memphis
Golden State at Oklahoma City
Houston at Chicago
Denver at Minnesota
Denver at Minnesota
Charlotte a Philadelphia

venver at Minnesota Charlotte at Philadelphia Indiana at Orlando Milwaukee at Oklahoma City Cleveland at New York Brooklyn at Phoenix Atlanta at Portland Toronto at L.A. Lakers

Irving, BRO Lillard, POR Leonard, LAC Antetokunmpo, MIL Beal, WAS Towns, MIN	7 6 8 7	75 74 64 84 64 45	43 37 56 42	222 218 176 232 189 134	31.7 31.1 29.3 29.0 27.0 26.8									
Doncic, DAL	7	62	43	187	26.7									
Davis, LAL			55	186	26.6									
Rebounds G OFF DEF TOT AVG														
Drummond, DET	9	44	123	167	18.6									
Love, CLE	7	6	95	101	14.4									
Antetokounmpo, MIL	Ř.	17	97		14.2									
Gobert, UTA	8	17	83	100	12.5									
Sabonis, IND	6	19	55	74	12.3									
Whiteside, POR	6	20	52	72	12.0									
Towns, MIN	5	11	48		11.8									
Adams, OKC	5	18	40		11.6									
Thompson, CLE		32			11.6									
Davis, LAL	7	20	56		10.9									
Ass			50		10.5									
A33		_		AST	41/0									
1			Ģ		AVG									

James, LAL Brogdon, IND Doncic, DAL Westbrook, HOU Rubio, PHX Harden, HOU Irving, BRO Antetokounmpo, MIL Young, ATL Lillard, POR 78 79 64 61 51 65 54 61 45 51

#### Calendar

Feb. 6 — Trade deadline (3 p.m. EST) Feb. 14-16 — All-Star weekend, Chicago. April 15 — Regular season ends. April 18 — Playoffs begin. May 19 — Draft lottery, Chicago.

### League says Clippers can rest Leonard

By BETH HARRIS Associated Press

ANGELES - Kawhi Leonard isn't healthy three weeks into the season, according to the NBA, which says that as a result the Los Angeles Clippers can rest their new superstar.

He was on the bench against the visiting Milwaukee Bucks for a national TV game Wednesday night, the first half of a back-toback for the Clippers. They host Portland on Thursday night, and coach Doc Rivers said Leonard would play.

"Kawhi Leonard is not a healthy

player under the league's resting policy," NBA spokesman Mike Bass said in a statement Wednesday. "And, as such, is listed as managing a

knee injury in the LA Clippers injury report. The league office consultation with the NBA's director of sports

medicine

is comfortable with the team medical staff's determination that Leonard is not sufficiently healthy to play in back-to-back games at this time."

While not disputing the league's comments, Rivers also said Leonard "feels great.

Last week, Leonard missed a road-home back-to-back against Utah and San Antonio. Rivers said it doesn't mean that Leonard won't play in back-to-backs - the team has 11 remaining this season — but "early on we're going to keep to the same plan that we've kept to so far."

Added Montrezl Harrell, "He's got to take care of his body like

every other player on this team." Rivers cited "a lot of minutes" that Leonard racked up last season while leading Toronto to its first NBA championship

"I think Kawhi made a statement that he's never felt better,' Rivers said. "It's our job to make sure he stays that way.

Leonard was averaging career highs in points (29.3), rebounds (7.3), assists (5.7), steals (2.3) and blocks (1.0) through six games this season, while averaging 30.5

minutes.
Paul George, the Clippers' other big acquisition during the summer, is still rehabbing from offseason shoulder surgery. He is expected to participate in contact at practice soon

Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said they manage reigning NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo in a similar manner to Leonard.

"We're very conscientious of how we can keep him healthy and how we can keep him play-ing well," he said, "It's not just the Clippers. A lot of teams are considering and doing things to make sure their whole roster is





AVID BANKS/A

Northwestern wide receiver Riley Lees, left, is tackled by Iowa defensive back Devonte Young, bottom, and Iowa linebacker Amani Jones, right, during the Hawkeyes' 20-0 win Saturday in Evanston, III.

# Shut down units: Wisconsin, lowa emphasize the physical

# Badgers lead nation in total defense, Hawkeyes have four shutouts

It's been a

in practice

and we're

physical week

getting ready

for a physical

game. That

is the way it

should be. 9

Jack Koerner

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — The numbers say one thing. But it was last week during the media availability with Iowa's assistant football coaches when someone asked defensive line coach Kelvin Bell and linebackers coach Seth Wallace if

the Hawkeyes defense was "elite."

"No," Bell said. Wallace agreed, saying there were plenty of things the Hawkeyes could be better at.

Their players agree with the assessment.

Iowa's defense ranks third nationally in scoring defense (10.1 points allowed per game), sixth in total defense (265.9 yards per game) and eighth in rushing defense (87.8 yards per game).

The scoring average is the best of coach Kirk Ferentz's 21

seasons at Iowa, and the lowest of any Iowa team since the 1956 Hawkeyes gave up 8.4 points per game. The total defense number is the lowest of any Iowa team since the 1984 team gave up an average of 27.2. yards per game.

Iowa has allowed nine touchdowns in seven games this season. Among Big Ten schools, only Ohio State, with six, has allowed fewer.

"Right now, the best thing we're doing defensively is we're playing great team defense," Ferentz said.

The No. 18 Hawkeyes are coming off a bye week

The No. 18 Hawkeyes are coming off a bye week after a 20-0 win at Northwestern. That game was Iowa's fourth shutout in its last 11 Big Ten games. No other Big Ten team has more than one shutout since the start of the 2018 season.

"I've seen the numbers," cornerback Michael Ojemudia said. "If we clean it up a little bit, we can be that much better. There's always room for improvement. But the focus is to be the best. You don't want to be top-five, you want to be number one. If we can clean up things and just be tighter, we can be better."

No. 16 Wisconsin will provide the defense with its biggest test Saturday in Madison.

Wisconsin running back Jonathan Taylor ranks fifth nationally with 126.1 rushing yards per game and ninth in rushing yards with 1,009. He has 15 rushing touchdowns, ranking fourth nationally.

"When you play a guy as good as Taylor, you might be stopping him for a while, but it's that threat that he can take it and then go the distance," Ferentz said. "Those plays break your back. They're tough to come back from. The big thing is you're on edge the entire game as long as he's out there. You have to respect his ability to finish plays, and it's really a significant factor."

Linebacker Djimon Colbert said he and his teammates look forward to games like this one, "especially guys in the front seven, because we know they're going to come out and run the ball."

The Hawkeyes have been preparing for the Badgers' physical play, and it started with the preparation for Northwestern.

"We had two of our more physical practices ever," safety Jack Koerner said. "And it carried over into the game. You do see it carry over. It carries over and makes us more effective in the game. It's been a physical week in practice and we're getting ready for a physical game. That is the way it should be."

The Hawkeyes' defense will have to match the Badgers, who have won six of the last seven games in the series. Wisconsin leads the nation in total defense and is fourth in scoring defense and fifth in rushing defense.

"Wisconsin, they're not going to make mistakes," Ojemudia said. "So if we dig ourselves into a ditch, in years past, you see it's hard to come from behind. So if we're mistake-free like them, I feel like we have the best edge coming into this game."

# Swinney: Clemson again peaking at the right time

By Pete Iacobelli Associated Press

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson coach Dabo Swinney doesn't need a top-four College Football Playoff ranking to know his fourth-ranked Tigers are playing well and have developed the leadership and chemistry they need to defend their national championship.

Swinney said the team's talent and execution are on par with last year's 15-0 title winners.

"The similarities to where we are now to where we were then, we were playing our best football and the leadership and chemistry were really, really good," he said. "And that's exactly where this group is."

The Tigers have won 24 straight games with their offense operating at level that statistically is better than a year ago. Clemson had has four games with 600 or more yards this season, the first time that's ever happened. And the Tigers' average of 7.58 yards per play this fall is also tops in school history. Clemson's defense, expected to

clemson's cerense, expected to be a concern after losing seven starters from a year ago, is giving up fewer points per game than last season when it lead the country in that category.

"It's exciting as we go into the fourth quarter of the season," Swinney said. Clemson (9-0, 6-0 Atlantic

Coast Conference) looks to keep its momentum going when it plays at North Carolina State (4-4, 1-3) on Saturday night.

No one should expect Swinney to pay much attention to the CFP rankings, which come out for the first time this season Tuesday night and will be released weekly until four playoff teams are set Dec. 8

"If we're two, three, four or

15, it's not worth the brain cells," said Swinney, who has seen his team drop in the Top 25 despite the preseason No. 1 pick not losing a game.

Quarter-back Trevor Lawrence said the team never pays much attention to what those on the outside think. He's spent much of season dealing with analysts breaking down his game — from his throwing motion to footwork to decision making. Though it's not all unwarranted. Much of the scrutiny that has come the 6-foot-6 sophomore's way is because of his eight interceptions — double his total from last season.

But Lawrence has performed more like that sensational freshmen the past month with 12 touchdown passes and three picks the last four games. He had nine TDs and five interceptions the first five games.

Reigning ACC player of the year Travis Etienne lately has also stepped up his game. He has run for 640 yards and six touchdowns the past four games — which Clemson has won by a combined score of 208-45 — compared with 462 yards and five touchdowns the first five games.

"It's really important that we're playing our best football in November and getting better every week," Lawrence said. "It's something we take a lot of pride in."

The Wolfpack has played well against the Tigers, especially in Raleigh, N.C. They won at home in 2011 and stayed within single digits of Clemson in 2013 and 2017.

"This week the challenge is obviously a great one when you play a team that's done what Clemson's done," North Carolina State coach Dave Doeren said. "I could go through their statistics, but you all know where they're at. They do a great job on both sides of the ball."



RICHARD SHIRO/A

Clemson's Trevor Lawrence, left, hands the ball off to Travis Etienne. Lawrence has stepped up lately for the Tigers, with 12 touchdown passes against three interceptions in his team's past four games. Etienne has also raised his game, running for 640 yards and six touchdowns the past four games.



sha Hunt/AF

Alabama wide receiver Jerry Jeudy catches a touchdown pass against Arkansas on Oct. 26 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Jeudy has eight

# Tagovailoa, Burrow well-armed

### Heisman-caliber QBs have 'top 2 receiving corps in the country'

By John Zenor Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Forget the Heisman, maybe quarterbacks Joe Burrow and Tua Tagovailoa can settle the question of who has the better wide receivers.

No. 1 LSU's Burrow and No. 2 Alabama's Tagovailoa both could make a strong case going into Saturday's game.

It's Jerry Jeudy vs. Justin Jefferson. DeVonta Smith against Ja'Marr Chase. Henry Ruggs III and Terrace Marshall Jr.

In other words, it's two of the best collections of receivers in college football with Heisman Trophy-caliber quarterbacks throwing to them.

"They've got NFL guys. We've got NFL guys, too, so it's a fun one," LSU cornerback Kristian Fulton said.

Fun, indeed.

Fulton called them "the top two receiving corps in the country." They're certainly among the most prolific with receivers who are projected as potential first-round picks, led by Alabama's Jeudy and Ruggs and LSU's Jefferson.

Both teams have produced plenty of standout NFL receivers in recent seasons, from LSU's



GERALD HERRERT

LSU's Ja'Marr Chase is SEC's leading reciever in yards per game, with teammate Justin Jefferson ranked second.

Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry to Alabama's Julio Jones, Amari Cooper and Calvin Ridley.

Unlike Beckham and Landry, who have had NFL seasons that aren'tto far away from their LSU career numbers, these groups have been piling up catches, yards and touchdowns all season.

They're huge beneficiaries of a dramatic shift in offensive philosophies, just like Burrow and Tagovailoa.

"They have a lot of guys who can make plays on offense, which makes it very challenging for you

### By the numbers

9

Number of TD catches, each, by LSU recievers Justin Jefferson, Ja'Marr Chase, and Alabama WR DeVonta Smith this season.

SOURCE: Associated Press

on defense," Alabama coach Nick Saban said.

He was speaking of LSU, but the same could be said for 'Bama.

The receivers are as likely to put up 100-yard games as the running backs, a big departure from past Alabama and LSU teams.

The SEC's top four receivers in yards per game and half of the Top 10 will be on the field at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

Chase and Jefferson are 1 and 2, followed by Smith and Jeudy. Chase, Jefferson and Smith all have nine touchdown catches, and Jeudy has eight

have nine touchdown catches, and Jeudy has eight.

Jefferson is tied for the Southeastern Conference lead in catches per game with South Carolina's

eastern Conference lead in catches per game with South Carolina's Bryan Edwards, averaging 6.9. Next up is Jeudy, last year's Biletnikoff Award winner, followed by Chase.

# Final: SEC powers have embraced game's offensive revolution

FROM BACK PAGE

So what happened? Are the days of teams winning championships with dominant defenses complemented by conservative offenses over?

"You just can't do that anymore because there are too many capable offenses that can move the ball at will even against some of the best defenders," said former Alabama quarterback and current ESPN analyst Greg McElroy, who won a national title with the Crimson Tide in 2009 while throwing 17 touchdown passes in 14 games.

Points and yards in college football have been steadily increasing for decades, but there was a surge in 2007 when Bowl Subdivision teams averaged a record 28.4 points and 392.6 yards per game. After a little regression the next year, it's been up, up and away ever since.

The 2011 season was the last in which FBS teams averaged fewer than 400 yards per game and 5.7 yards per play. With spread offenses, um, spreading and pace-pushers following Oregons' up-tempo lead, teams averaged 28.3 points per game that season — a mark that has been surpassed every season since.

The SEC, while in the middle of a long run of national titles, was mostly still playing slow and steady on offense and relying on



BRYNN ANDERSON

LSU head coach Ed Orgeron, left, and Alabama head coach Nick Saban meet in the center of the field before a game in Tuscaloosa, Ala., on Nov. 4, 2017. The Tigers and the Crimson Tide will play the first regular-season game matching the top-two ranked AP squads since 2011 — when No. 1 LSU beat No. 2 Alabama 9-6 in overtime.

smothering defenses. It was seventh among 11 FBS conferences in scoring at 27.3 points per team per game in 2011 and ranked last in yards per team per game at 355. That was 15 yards fewer than the next lowest BCS league (Big East at 371.6) and almost 100 yards fewer than Big 12 teams (453.3).

The Crimson Tide won the national championship in 2011,

winning a rematch with LSU in the BCS title game 21-0. That Alabama team is the last in major college football to hold its opponents below 10 points per game for a season (8.2).

This year, SEC teams are averaging 30.25 points per game, fourth among 10 FBS conferences, and 420.2 yards per game, second only to American Athletic

Conference teams at 432.1.

To be clear: Alabama and LSU have usually had offenses that statistically rank among the best in the SEC, even the country. They have fielded dynamic offensive players such as Derrick Henry and Odell Beckham Jr. But nothing reveals the true identify of college football team like a game against a physical peer. When LSU and Alabama have gotten together over the last decade, the games have generally been grinding affairs, where yards and points are hard to come by.

Since LSU's 9-6 victory in 2011, Alabama has won eight straight meetings by an average score of 24-9.

Danielson traces the evolution of offense in the SEC back past 2011 to Urban Meyer's Florida teams that won national championships in 2006 and '08. Meyer brought the spread with him from Utah, stressing the perimeters of a defense.

"There were a little bit of question marks: Would that work against the elite NFL players in the SEC? And Urban proved he could do it," Danielson said. "Now, the reason LSU and Alabama didn't change was because they didn't have to change. They were winning the way they were."

Saban also pushed back against the fast-paced offenses, questioning whether they were creating a more dangerous game. He said in 2012: "I just think there's got to be some sense of fairness in terms of asking: Is this what we want football to be?"

He, like just about every defensive coach, questioned whether rules should be changed to decrease how far down field an offensive lineman could block on a passing play from 3 yards to 1. Why? Because the run-pass option was creating still more problems for defenders who were getting turned inside out trying to decide whether to drop into coverage or play the run.

The transformation to spread offense for Saban started with the hiring of Lane Kiffin as offensive coordinator in 2014.

It took LSU a little longer. Les Miles' replacement, Ed Orgeron, needed a couple of years, but in Burrow and first-year passing game coordinator Joe Brady, who was lured away from the New Orleams Saints, LSU now has an offense that can keep pace.

"I think that's the way the game is going now, and if you look at some of the most successful teams offensively they're preture much all playing that way," Saban said. "It's much more difficult to make explosive plays just running the ball. These guys (LSU) just make at on of explosive plays because of what they've evolved

#### **TOP 25 SCHEDULE**

Saturday's games No. 1 LSU at No. 2 Alabama No. 3 Ohio State vs. Maryland No. 4 Clemson at N.C. State No. 5 Penn State at No. 13 Minnesota No. 6 Florida vs. Vanderbilt No. 8 Georgia vs. Missouri No. 10 Oklahoma vs. Iowa State

No. 12 Baylor at TCU
No. 15 Notre Dame at Duke
No. 16 Wisconsin vs. No. 18 Iowa
No. 17 Cincinnati vs. UConn
No. 15 SMU vs. East Carolina
No. 21 Roise State vs. Wyoming
No. 22 Kansas State at Texa

### No. 23 Wake Forest at Virginia Tech No. 24 San Diego State vs. Nevada

#### Air Force (7-2)

vs. New Mexico ppd. Last week: Beat Army 17-13

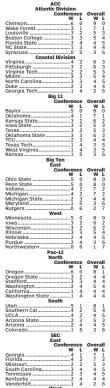
#### Army (3-6)

vs. UMass (1-8), Saturday Last week: Lost to Air Force 17-13

#### Navy (7-1)

Does not play Last week: Beat UConn 56-10

#### **POWER FIVE STANDINGS**



Alabama LSU.....

Texas A&M ...... Mississippi State

Mississippi...

Auburn

8 8 7



RICHARD SHIRO/A

Clemson's Travis Etienne has played like the reigning ACC player of the year for the past month. The 5-foot-10 junior has gained 640 yards and six TDs in the last four games.

#### **KEY POWER FIVE MATCHUPS**

#### Maryland (3-6) at No. 3 Ohio State (8-0) 6 p.m. Saturday CET 2 a.m. Sunday JKT AFN-Sports2

Series record: Ohio State leads 5-0.

What's at stake? — Surging Ohio State is meeting a Big Ten East with that is going in the opposite direction. The Buckeyes haven't seriously been challenged in their eight wins and need to sustain momentum before facing No. 5 Penn State and No. 14 Michigan to finish the regular season. Maryland has won just once in the last seven games, Iosing last week to Michigan 38-7 one week after a 42-point drubbing at the hands of Minnesota. Maryland gawe Ohio State a scare late last season but likely isn't in position to play that well against the charging Buckeyes this time.

Key matchup — Ohio State: QB Justin Fields sv. Maryland's defense. Fields can complete passes almost at will and make things happen with his feet when necessary. Maryland has the worst pass defense in the Big Ten, so expect the sophomore Georgia transfer to have a huge day. Fields is competing nearly 69% of his passes and has thrown for 24 touchdowns.

Players to watch — Maryland: LB Keandre Jones, a transfer from Ohio State, is one of the Terps' best defensive players. He has 45 tackles, including six of Maryland's 18 sacks.

Ohio State: DE Chase Young. The All-American is having a tremendous season and has worked his way into the Heisman Trophy conversation. The Ohio State defensive front will shove around the Maryland offensive line, setting up Young to add to his nation-leading 13.5 sacks.

Facts & figures — Ohio State has won 31 of its act 32 home games against Big Ten opponents since 2012 by an average margin of 23.3 points, ... Fields has accounted for 33 touchdowns (24 passing, nine ushing), second best in the nation. ... Maryland is one of only two power five teams — the other is UCLA — with a kickoff and punt return for touchdowns this season. ... Last season vs. then-No. 9 Ohio State, Maryland RB Arthony McFarland Jr. rushed for 298 yards, the second most in program history, as Ohio State won 52-51 in overtime.

No. 1 LSU (8-0) at No. 2 Alabama (8-0) 9:30 p.m. Saturday CET 5:30 a.m. Sunday JKT AFN-Sports

Series record: Alabama leads 53-25-5.

What's at stake? — SEC West supremacy. Playoff standing. The Tigers, tying to snap an eight-game skid against the Crimson Tide, have already beaten three Top 10 teams. That resume means a loss wouldn't necessarily derall their playoff hopes. Alabama doesn't have that margin for error since Nick Saban's team hasn't faced a team that's currently ranked.

Key matchup — Alabama's young defense against GB Joe Burrow and LSU's offense. The Tide still has the league's No. 2 scoring defense despite a heavierthan-usual reliance on freshmen but it hasn't faced an offense like LSU's. The Tiges are averaging 377.6 passing yards, easily a league high. Alabama has standout comerbacks in Trevon Digss and Patrick Surtain Ur., along with safety Yavier McKinney.

Key matchup — LSU: Burrow's 2,805 passing yards and 30 touchdown passes both rank second nationally and his arsenal includes the league's coleader in catches per game (Justin Jefferson) and leader in yards per game (Ja'Marr Chase).

Alabama: OB Túa Tagovailoa is described as "a game-time decision" with a high ankle sprain that sidelined him for the Arkansas game. Though backup Mac Jones was solid in his absence, Alabama could have a hard time keeping up with Burrow & Co. without a healthy Tagovailoa. Facts & figures — This is the 13th consecutive Facts & figures — This is the 13th consecutive

Facts & figures — This is the 13th consecutive meeting where both teams come in ranked, including seven Top 10 clashes. ... The Tigers have won seven of their last eight games against 10p 10 teams, with the only loss coming 29-0 against Alabama last season. ... LSU coach Ed Orgeron is 0-6 against the tide, with three losses at LSU and three at Mississippi. ... Alabama has won 31 straight games at Bryant-Denny Stadium. The last loss came to Mississippi in 2015. ... Sabans 24 wins over Top 5 teams is the most of any college football coach. ... LSU is off to its first 8-0 start since 2011 and fifth overall.

No. 4 Clemson (9-0) at NC State (4-4) 1:30 a.m. Sunday CET 9:30 a.m. Sunday JKT AFN-Sports2

Series record — Clemson leads 58-28-1

What's at stake? — The reigning national champion Tigers are still rolling, both to a fifth straight fallantic Coast Conference championship and another trip to the College Football Playoff. A stumble against the struggling and injury-riddled Wolfpack could wound the playoff pursuit.

Key matchup — Clemson's WRs against N.C. State's secondary, For the second straight week the Wolfpack's secondary has to overcome significant injury trouble against receivers putting up elite numbers or a ranked opponent. Last week it was against No. 22 Wake Forest. Now they face a group led by Justyn Ross and Tee Higgins. Sophomore De Von Great And State State State and redshirt freshman Malik Dunlap have started the past two games at comerback for N.C. State.

Players to watch — Clemson: RB Travis Etienne has played like the reigning ACC player of the year for the past month. The 5-foot-10 junior has gained 640 yards and six TDs in the last four games. His yards have come on just 56 carries (he's out by early in the third quarter) for an average of better than 11 yards a jush.

N.C. State: OB Devin Leary had plenty of struggles in his first college start at Wake Forest, completing just 3 of 19 passes after halfitme and none of his eight tries in the fourth quarter of a blowout loss. Coach Dave Doeren said the redshirt freshman is competitive and coachable, but that the biggest challenge mow is improving his throw-to-throw consistency.

Facts & figures — The Wolfpack gase the Tigers two tough games in 2016 and 2017, missing on a road upset in the first on a missed short field goal to end regulation and then losing a tough fourth-quarter flight at home. But last year, Clemson beat N.C. State 41-7 at home. ... Since hanging on for a 21-20 win at North Carolina on Sept. 28, the Tigers have won four games by a combined 163 points (40.8 average).

Associated Press

#### **All-America watch**

# Herbert calmly has his Ducks in a row

# Quarterback has led No. 7 Oregon to 8 straight wins after season-opening loss to Auburn

By Anne M. Peterson

Probably the best example of Justin Herbert's influence over No. 7 Oregon came after the Ducks fell behind to USC last weekend.

The team gathered midway through the first half and collectively decided there was no reason to panic. Herbert led the effort by example, as he has time and again in his senior season.

"We knew that we're a special group and we just needed to calm down and look at each other and say, "This is not us. We'll do better" he said.

The Ducks trailed 10-0 after the first quarter but went on to beat the Trojans 56-24 on Saturday. Herbert threw for 225 yards and three touchdowns and ran for another score. Each of his touchdown passes came in the second half, and at one point he completed 14 straight passes, making 20 of his last 21 in the game.

He has 87 scoring passes over his Orgeon career to rank inith on the Pac-12's all-time list. He ranks second in the Pac-12 this season with an average of 258 8 passing yards and 24 touchdowns, second only to Anthony Gordon of Washington State in both categories.

The Ducks are averaging 38.2 points when he starts. Oregon is 23-7 in the last three seasons with him at QB.

Herbert has traditionally shied

away from discussing his individual accomplishments.

To him, the most important stat is that the Ducks are winning. After the season-opening loss to Auburn, they've recled off eight straight wins and are on course to win the Pac-12 North for a spot in the conference title game. Oregon even has a shot — albeit a remote one — of making the College Football Playoff. Herbert said that's the least of his concerns.

"Pac-12 games are tough, any win you can get at this time of the year is tough, we'll take it and we'll move on, we'll learn from it and we'll get better," he said.

One of Herbert's key victories this season came against Washington, when he led Oregon back from a two-touchdown deficit in the second half for a 35-31 victory at Husky Stadium. He capped an eight-play, 70-yard drive with a 5-yard touchdown pass to Jaylon Redd for the winning margin.

"Justin is unfazed, a complete professional. He wasn't flustered, he wasn't upset," Oregon coach Mario Cristobal said. "Everything out of him was positive and leadership oriented."

There was speculation last year that Herbert might bolt for the NFL after his junior season, but he announced shortly before Oregon's 7-6 victory over Michigan State in the RedBox Bowl that he would finish out his career with the Ducks.

He explained his decision at the start of this season.

"I think it's a really special group of guys—all the guys sitting over there, they're great to be around, they're great teammates," Herbert said at Oregon's media day at the start of fall camp. "The coaching staff and all the staff, it's really special. It's really something I wanted to be around for another year."

USC coach Clay Helton called Herbert the best quarterback in the country and a "Day 1" NFL draft pick this spring.



Kyusung Gong/AF

Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert passed up on the NFL Draft last spring for a chance to play his senior season. He led the No. 7 Ducks to a 56-24 come-from-behind defeat of Southern California on Saturday, throwing for 225 yards and three touchdowns and rushing for a touchdown. He has 87 scoring passes over his Oregon career to rank inith on the Pac-12's all-time list.

"This kid has been playing since he's a freshman," Helton said. "He's a really, really experienced QB that has a lot of confidence in his decision-making and his arm strength. It's evident on tape."

Oregon (8-1, 6-0 Pac-12) has this weekend off before hosting Arizona on Nov. 16.

#### Who's hot

#### Lawrence Cager, WR, Georgia

Cager's emergence as Jake Fromm's go-to receiver has helped to clear No. 6 Georgia's path to another Southeastern Conference championship game.

Cager, a graduate transfer from Miami, set career highs with seven catches for 132 yards, including a 52-yarder for a touchdown, in the Bulldogs' 24-17 win over Florida last week.

"That's what every receiver dreams of," Cager said Monday of his career-best

Cager, from Baltimore, planned to follow his friend Van Jefferson to Georgia in 2015. Jefferson changed his mind on his commitment to the Bulldogs and instead signed with Mississiphi before transferring to Florida two years ago. Georgia made other plans at wide receiver, and Cager signed with Mismis.

Four years later, Cager's attention returned to Georgia. He saw a path for immediate playing time at Georgia, which lost its top five leaders in yards receiving from last season.

Cager (6-foot-5, 220) gives Georgia a big-play threat with the size to win battles



CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AF

Georgia wide receiver Lawrence Cager had a career-high seven catches for 132 receiving yards, including this 52yarder for a touchdown, in the Bulldogs' 24-17 defeat of Florida on Saturday in Jacksonville, Fla.

against smaller defensive backs.

As defenses consistently stack the line against a running game led by D'Andre Swift, Cager could see more one-on-one matchups in remaining SEC games against Missouri, Auburn and Texas A&M.

#### Gregory Rousseau, DE, Miami.

The redshirt freshman has been one of the bright spots on a Miami team that has not had a lot to celebrate this year. Rousseau is tied for second in the nation in sacks with 12 after putting together backto-back big games. He had three sacks in a victory against Pitt and four last week against Florida State.

#### Who's not

#### Jordan Love, QB, Utah State.

The junior started the season with the school pushing him as a Heisman contender after a breakout season in 2018. It has not gone well. Love has thrown 12 interceptions, tied for second-most in FBS and is coming off a three-pick game against BYU. Before that he had gone three straight weeks without cracking 200 yards passing.

#### All-America matchup

Joe Burrow, QB, LSU vs. Tua Tagovailoa, QB, Alabama.

Usually this space is reserved for players on the field at the same time — and there will be plenty of great head-to-head matchups in Tigers vs. Tide — but these quarterbacks are the leading Heisman contenders. Whichever one plays best Saturday will have the inside track to the Heisman and being a first-team All-American. Tagovailoa was a member of the AP preseason All-America team.

# Saints' offense is healthiest it has been since Week 2

By Brett Marti

METAIRIE, La. — While Saints quarterback Drew Brees plans to again wear a plastic splint on his surgically repaired thumb against the Atlanta Falcons this Sunday, chances are he'll be on the field with an offense that is as healthy as it's been since the quarterback was injured early in a Week 2 loss to the Rams in Los Angeles.

Tight end Jared Cook, whose injured ankle kept him out of two games, including Brees' first game back from thumb surgery in Week 8, fully participated in practice on Wednesday, as did No. 3 receiver Tre'Quan Smith, who has not had a catch since injuring his ankle in Week 2.

Dynamic running back Alvin

Bynamic running back Alvin Kamara, who has missed two games with ankle and knee injuries, also practiced on a limited basis, and teammates sounded optimistic that he looked close to being ready.

"Hopefully we'll have everybody back this week and just continue to build on what we've done up to this point," Brees said.

Although backup QB Teddy Bridgewater gained folk-hero status from going 5-0 as a fill-in starter during what is now a six-game winning streak for the 7-1 Saints, offensive productivity spiked considerably when Brees returned against Arizona in Week 8, going 34-for-43 for 373 yards and three touchdowns without Kamara, Cook or Smith in the lineup.

"It was great to be able to come back the week before the bye and get a game under my belt," Brees said.

In his two full games, Brees has averaged 371.5 passing yards and thrown for five touchdowns. Bridgewater averaged 241.0 yards and threw for nine scores in his five starts. He, too, had to play without Kamara, Cook and Smith in his final start.

Brees said he isn't sure how long he'll continue to wear a splint on his right thumb, on which he had surgery Sept. 18, but he has decided to keep using it for now because he's comfortable with it.

Cook, who had seven catches for 78 yards and two touchdowns over his last two games before his injury, said he "felt good" in practice and sounded encouraged about his prospects for picking up where he left off.

"I definitely feel like my production was getting better," Cost said. "The excited. I only missed one game without Drew. Me and him get a chance to come in and kind of help this offense be even more productive than it has been."

Saints coach Sean Payton said he "absolutely" remains high on Cook's potential in his offense.

"Look, we've seen it all during training camp," Payton said. "We've just got to continue to look at giving him opportunities."

The Saints have gotten by without Kamara thanks to Latavius Murray, who had 62 rushing or receiving touches combined for 307 yards from scrimmage and four touchdowns during New Orleans' previous two games.

The Saints also have been reliant on Michael Thomas, who has made 73 of the team's 203 receptions for 874 of the team's 2,088 yards through the air.

"Obviously, you understand opponents are going to find a way or try to find a way to (double-team) Mike, certainly in certain down and distances, and we've got to have other ways to get the ball down the field or to other receivers." Payton said.



.. Emp/AD

The New Orleans Saints, finally healthy, have relied heavily on wide receiver Michael Thomas this season. He has made 73 of the team's 203 catches and 874 of the team's 2,088 receiving yards.



Don Wright/A

Pittsburgh Steelers outside linebacker Bud Dupree, right, prepares to sack Indianapolis Colts quarterback Jacoby Brissett on Sunday in Pittsburgh. Dupree has six sacks this season.

# Steelers linebacker Dupree finds edge for contract year

By WILL GRAVES Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — For years, Bud Dupree and Cam Heyward would talk about getting together to train during the offseason. The discussion was always vague. No specifics or firm commitments. Then the months would pass, January would become June and the chance for the longtime Pittsburgh Steelers teammates to meet up would evaporate.

Until last winter, when Dupree, an outside linebacker, joined defensive linemen Heyward, Javon Hargrave and Tyson Alualu in Louisiana to work out for former LSU defensive line guru Pete Jenkins. Together they honed their craft and bonded. Dupree's intensity was unmistakable, offering Heyward tangible proof Dupree was ready for the breakout season that'd always been just beyond his grasp during four years in which the former first-round pick tantalized with his talent but frustrated with his inconsistency.

Dupree downplayed the personal stakes heading into 2019 after the team opted not to sign him to an extension, instead relishing the chance to effectively bet on himself with a chance to hit the open market in 2020.

"He didn't make a big deal about getting a contract or anything," Heyward said. "Just worked his tail off and challenged himself."

In the process, he's become the week-in, week-out force the Steelers envisioned when they grabbed him with the 22nd overall pick in the 2015 draft. The 26-year-old is playing the best football of his career for the Steelers (4-4) heading into Sunday's visit by the Los Angeles Rams (5-3). Dupree has

# By the numbers

6

The number of sacks this season for Steelers linebacker Bud Dupree through eight games, tying his career high.

25

Solo tackles this season for Dupree, putting him on pace for 64, which would be 19 more than any of his previous four seasons.

SOURCE: NFL.com

already matched his career high with six sacks, teaming up with T.J. Watt to become one of the NFL's top edge rushing tandems.

"(Dupree) has been a monster, as has T.J.," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "They are really setting a pace off the edge and really providing the wave that the rest of us get to ride defensively. But that's the nature of outside linebacker play within our scheme. Particularly, when you draft them in Round 1. That is what they are supposed to look like in their mid-20s."

The problem for Dupree heading into his fifth season is that he's only looked like that occasionally. For every big-time play — he sacked Tom Brady in his debut in 2015 and memorably drilled Miami quarterback Matt Moore in a wild-card game the following season — there were long stretches when Dupree's No. 48 would all but disappear.

"Last year I missed a lot of sacks," said Dupree, who finished with 5½ sacks in 2018. "I had sacks in my hand that I missed. I just feel if I had finished that, we would have had a whole different year last year. So just being able to finish is big."

The 6-foot-4, 270-pound Dupree has become a dedicated student of the game.

"I think he's just become a lot smarter of a player as far as film study," Watt said.

Dupree is winning those battles even when opponents send two or three bodies at him. That's what the Indianapolis Colts did last Sunday on a critical play in the waning moments. The Colts faced third-and-1 at the Pittsburgh 22. A first down and Indianapolis could run the clock down to zero and attempt a short field goal to steal the victory. Dupree recognized the formation instantly and dropped Indianapolis running back Marlon Mack for a 3-yard loss. A chip shot for Adam Vinatieri became something significantly harder. And when his 43-varder sailed well left of the uprights, the Steelers survived.

Pittsburgh could place the franchise tag on Dupree in March, though it would cost somewhere close to \$20 million. Or they could let Dupree hit the open market. Either way, Dupree knows he's fine.

"I mean, I'm straight on it," he said. "I'll play it by ear. I bet on myself. It helped me out. I'll probably make more money (next) year than I would have made on

#### NFI



JOHN HEFTI, ABOVE, AND RICK SCUTERI, BELOW/AF

Above: Oakland Raiders quarterback Derek Carr is posting his highest career marks in completion percentage (71.2), yards per attempt (7.9) and passer rating (105.1) halfway through the season. Below: San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo threw for 317 yards and four touchdowns last week against the Arizona Cardinals, the 49ers' second four-TD game in the past 16 years.

# Prove it or lose it

# Some QBs excelling, others being benched

By Josh Dubow Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif, erek Carr has silenced the questions of his long-term viability as back for the Raiders by looking once again like the quarterback who was one of the top young passers in the league back in 2016.

Jimmy Garoppolo is proving why the San Francisco 49ers invested so heavily in him after only a handful of NFL starts by leading the NFL's only remaining undefeated team.

While Carr and Garoppolo have

While Carr and Garoppolo have stepped up their performances in what were viewed as prove-it seasons, that hasn't been the case for other quarterbacks who came into the year in similar scenarios.

Tennessee's Marcus Mariton and Cincinnati's Andy Dalton have already been benched and seem poised to be looking for a new job next season, while Mitchell Trubisky appears close to playing himself out of a job in Chicago in just his third season.

Jameis Winston has once again displayed the type of up-anddown performances in Tampa Bay that led to the Buccaneers deciding to let him play out his fifth year option instead of get-



FRANK VICTORES/A

Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton has been benched with a year left on his contract.

ting a long-term contract.

The Raiders are happy with their situation with Carr, who is leading one of the league's most efficient offenses following two disappointing seasons.

"T say it all the time, this league does not give quarterbacks enough time," Carr said. "This organization has given me time, it's steady. We know who the coaches are. We know who the quarterback is. Let them grow and now we're getting to see the fruits of it."

Carr is posting his highest career marks in completion percentage (71.2), yards per attempt (7.9) and passer rating (105.1). He has been at his best in key spots with his 140.1 passer rating on third down ranking highest in the league in 25 years.

Mariota and Dalton both struggled this season in their first years under new systems and have been benched.

Mariota, the second overall pick in 2015, has gone through three head coaches and five play-callers and has failed to build on a promising start to his career. He completed less than 60% of his passes this season and got benched for Ryan Tannehill after going 7-for-18 for 63 yards and two interceptions in a loss at Denver last month.

With Mariota set to become a free agent next year, it appears as if he will need to find a new home if he ever wants to live up to his draft billing.

"That's solely on my shoulders," he said. "I had an opportunity to play, and I didn't make the most of it. I'm going to learn and grow from it. This is an opportunity for me to grow as a person and as a player."

Dalton got benched after eightplus seasons as starter in Cincinnati with the Bengals looking for a change after an 0-8 start. Dalton led Cincinnati to the playoffs his first five seasons but the team never won a playoff game in that stretch and he has strugeled the past few seasons as the offensive line deteriorated and top receiver A.J. Green missed a lot of time with injuries.

Dalton has one year left on his contract but the Bengals can get out of it with no dead money if they decide to go another direction.

"If this is the end here, I don't know," Dalton said. "I don't know what the future holds, but this is not how I envisioned it."

Trubisky figured to be on safer ground after taking big steps forward under coach Matt Nagy in his second year in the NFL. But Trubisky has regressed badly from the start of the season and ranks 29th out of 32 qualifying quarterbacks with an 80 passer

Making matters worse is the fact that the Bears went all-in, trading two first-round draft picks last season for edge rusher Khalil Mack and now will have a hard time finding a replacement in next year's draft if they decide to move on from the 2017 No. 2 overall bick.

The questions about Garoppolo heading into the year were as much about his durability as his performance. He went down with a season-ending knee injury in Week 3 last season and had made only 10 career starts in his first five seasons, while suffering two major injuries.

He had some rough moments in training camp and the preseason, only intensifying the criticism that was only slightly quieted by San Francisco's fast start behind a dominant defense and running game

But Garoppolo delivered his best performance last week in a 28-25 win at Arizona when the defense was gassed and the running game struggled to get going.

He threw for 317 yards, four TDs and no interceptions, delivering several big passes on third and fourth down for San Francisco's second four-touchdown game in the past 16 years.

"We all know Jimmy can throw it and get his numbers," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "He's gotten it before. We haven't needed it his year, but he's done in before. I thought the most impressive thing was the amount of times we threw, how many plays he made and that we had no turnovers with it."

That's been the problem with Winston, who makes some of the most impressive throws as well as the most bone-headed. He has thrown for 2,407 yards and 16 touchdowns at the midpoint of the season. But he also has 12 interceptions and four lost fumbles, giving him 92 turnovers in five seasons — 16 more than the next highest player.

But the good might be enough to earn him a sixth year in Tampa Bay while some of these other passers could be looking for work.





Cincinnati Bengals coach Zac Taylor argues for a call during a game against the Buffalo Bills on Sept. 22 in Orchard Park, N.Y. The NFL made pass interference penalties reviewable this season and made backside offensive holding a point of emphasis, but the interpretation of those rules has been frustrating at best.

# Yellow flags, red flags and black eyes

# Frustration over rules, rash of quarterback injuries leaves little to celebrate in league's 100th season

By ARNIE STAPLETON Associated Press

he NFL's 100th season has not been worth celebrating even if the history of the league is. Some teams appear to be tanking, penalties are wrecking the flow of games, some of the biggest stars have been sidelined, the new pass interference rule appears to have been adapted only to quiet the uproar that started after last season's NFC championship game and, even though ratings are up, it all looks like one big mess on TV.

The NFL opted for a history-tinged Packers-Bears opener and what it got was a throwback to the 1920s, with a knock-down-drag-out defensive clash that Green Bay won 10-3 in a rivalry rumpus that featured 20 penalties.

That foreshadowed a sea of yellow flags and another black eye for the league following the Antonio Brown head-to-toe, coast-to-coast saga and threatened to hijack the league's centennial celebration.

Although flags continue to fly, six-time Super Bowl winner Tom Brady's indignation helped whittle the whistles.

The NFL made backside offensive holding a point of emphasis this season, asking offi-cials to flag what's known as a "lobster block" where O-linemen wrap their arms around a defender when blocking on the backside of running plays.

The officials went overboard, however, throwing flags for offensive holding all over the field, calling 178 through the first two weekends and 10 more in the Titans-Jaguars Thursday night game that kicked off Week 3, prompting Brady to tweet, "Too many penalties. Just let us play!!!"

By halftime, Brady was as disgusted as any fan. "I'm turning off this game I can't watch these ridiculous penalties anymore,' he tweeted

Analyst Troy Aikman noted Brady's tweets on the game broadcast, saying, "Tom Brady is



Cansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes watches his team's game against the Green Ray Packers from the sidelines Oct. 27 in Kansas City. Mo. A rash of injuries has made it difficult for fans to keep track of who's in and who's out



After New England Patriots QB Tom Brady tweeted during a Thursday night game, the NFL took a look at the number of penalties being called.

one of the least controversial people we have in our game. He is league royalty. When he makes a statement like that, that should get somebody's attention.'

It sure did.

Al Riveron, the league's senior vice president of officiating, held a conference call with referees that Saturday, instructing crews to allow linemen more time to get their hands inside the frame of defenders on blocks, and the penalties began to plummet.

So have the coaches' challenges on pass interference that were approved for this season after the Saints were victimized by a non-call on interference in the NFC championship, helping the Rams advance to the Super Bowl.

The tipping point came in the Eagles-Packers game Sept. 26, when Green Bay challenged a non-call, believing Marquez Valdes-Scantling was interfered with on a deep pass. Eagles DB Avante Maddox had his left hand jammed into the receiver's facemask as the ball was arriving. But the league ruled "there was no clear and obvious evidence "that Maddox "significantly hindered" Valdes-Scantling.

"It looks clear and obvious to me," said Packers coach Matt LaFleur, who added, "I really don't know what pass interference is

Nobody does, Broncos coach Vic Fangio said a day later.

Tony Dungy argues that subjecting subjective calls to review was a monstrous mistake. There are going to be things that are missed. That's part of the game," Dungy said.

"The NFC championship game, there was a missed call — too bad. I feel bad for New Orleans. But it happens. It's happened every year since football began. So, to have this rule now and to say we're going to suddenly eliminate or help out this one particular call that everybody saw, now we've got all the unintended consequences (like wildly inconsistent rulings). I think this whole thing has been a

So has pass protection, which has starting

to become a misnomer.

Starting with Andrew Luck, who retired at age 29 after dealing with a series of ailments, so many star quarterbacks have been hurt in 2019 that it's hard for fans to keep track of who's confined to the sideline.

The casualty list includes Super Bowl winners Ben Roethlisherger (elbow) Drew Brees (thumb), Nick Foles (collarbone) and Joe Flacco (neck) along with MVPs Patrick Mahomes (knee), Cam Newton (foot) and Matt Ryan

Luck's replacement, Jacoby Brissett, left Sunday's loss at Pittsburgh with a sprained knee that forced Brian Hoyer into his first extended action in more than two years.

Backups aren't safe, either. Mason Rudolph was knocked unconscious after replacing Roethlisherger and Trevor Siemian broke an ankle while starter Sam Darnold was out with

The NFL started to look a lot like the NBA in 2019, with some of its biggest stars gaining more of a say in where they play

Miami's fire sale of Laremy Tunsil, Kenny Stills and Kiko Alonzo prompted Minkah Fitzpatrick to ask for his ticket out of town and the Dolphins sent the star safety to the Steelers. Then, Jalen Ramsey talked his way out of Jacksonville, which traded him to the Rams, who sent Marcus Peters to the Rayens

Through all this, CBS, Fox, NBC and ESPN report ratings jumps from last season.

Although the trade deadline was a dud, big names changing addresses before the cutoff included Jadeveon Clowney, Leonard Wil-liams, Michael Bennett and Emmanuel Sanders, who caught seven passes for 112 yards, a touchdown and two crucial third-down conversions against Arizona last week.

That helped the 49ers hit the halfway point as the league's only unbeaten team at 8-0 two years after they were 0-8. The Bengals (0-8) have a jump on the top pick in the draft, al-though the Dolphins, Jets, Redskins and Falcons are close behind with one win each.

#### NFL

#### **WEEK 10 TELEVISED GAMES**





#### Detroit Lions (3-4-1) at Chicago Bears (3-5)

AFN-Sports2 7 p.m. Sunday CET

3 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Bears lead 99-74-5.

Last meeting: Bears beat Lions 23-16.

Notes: Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford passed for 406 yards and three TDs last week for a 110.4 rating in last week's 31-24 loss to the Raiders. .. It was his ninth career game with 400 or more passing yards. ... Wide receiver Kenny Golladay had four catches for a team-high 132 yards and a TD last week. ... Wide receiver Marvin Jones led team with eight catches for 126 yards and a TD in Week 9. ... Bears quarterback Mitchell Trubisky completed 23 of 30 passes for 355 yards and three TDs for a 148.6 rating and had a rushing TD in last home meeting. .. Running back David Montgomery had 76 age yards (40 rushing, 36 receiv ing) and two rushing TDs in last week's 22-14 loss to Eagles. ... Wide receiver Allen Robinson had six catches for 133 yards and two TDs in last home meeting.



24. Dec. 17, 2017.

New England

Buffalo

Miami N.Y. Jets

Houston

Indiananolis

Jacksonville Tennessee

Baltimore

Pittsburgh

Cleveland Cincinnati

Kansas City

L.A. Chargers Denver

Oakland



#### Carolina Panthers (5-3) at Green Bay Packers (7-2)

AFN-Sports 10 p.m. Sunday CET 6 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Packers lead 8-6 Last meeting: Panthers beat Packers 31-

Notes: Panthers have won past two meetings. ... Panthers quarterback Kyle Allen passed for 232 yards and two TDs last week in 30-20 win over Titans. ... Running back Christian McCaffrey had 166 scrimmage vards (146 rushing, 20 receiving) and three TDs in Week 9. ... Linebacker Shaq Thompson had 11 tackles, a sack and a career-high three tackles for loss last week.

Tight end Greg Olsen had nine catches for 116 yards and a TD in last meeting... Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers has 1,520 passing yards (304 per game) and 15 TDs in five career games against Pan-Wide receiver Davante Adams led team with seven catches last week in 26-11 loss to Chargers. ... Linebacker Blake Martinez led team with 12 tackles last week and leads NFI with 95 tackles this season.

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### Seattle Seahawks (7-2) at San Francisco 49ers (8-0)

AFN-Sports, 2:15 a.m. Tuesday CET, 10:15 a.m. Tuesday JKT

SERIES RECORD: Seahawks lead 24-16. LAST MEETING: 49ers beat Seahawks 26-23,

Dec. 16, 2018. SEAHAWKS OFFENSE: OVERALL (4), RUSH (8),

SEAHAWKS DEFENSE: OVERALL (25), RUSH (13), PASS (28)

49ERS OFFENSE: OVERALL (7), RUSH (2), PASS

49ERS DEFENSE: OVERALL (1), RUSH (14) PASS

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES: Seahawks have won nine of past 10 meetings. ... Seahawks coach Pete Carroll is 13-6 against 49ers. ... Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson passed for 378 yards and five TDs for 133.7 rating in 40-34 overtime victory over Buccaneers in Week 9. ... Running back Chris Carson had 133 scrimmage yards (105 rushing, 28 receiving) in Week 9, his 10th career game with 100 or more rushing yards. ... Wide receiver Tyler Lockett

TDs last week, his seventh career game with 100 or more receiving yards. ... Wide receiver DK Metcalf set career highs in catches (six) and receiving yards (123) and had a TD catch last week, ... Wide receiver Josh Gordon will make his debut with Seahawks this week. ... Linebacker Bobby Wagner led team with 11 tackles and had a sack last week. ... 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo completed 28 of 37 passes for 317 yards and a career-high four TDs last week in 28-25 victory over Cardinals. ... Wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders had seven catches for 112 yards and a TD in Week 9, his 20th career game with 100 or more receiving yards. ... Tight end George Kittle had 79 receiving yards and a TD catch last week. ... Rookie defensive lineman Nick Bosa aims for his third home game in a row with two or more sacks. ...



Cornerback Rich-



			National Conference													
			East													
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	2-1-0		Philadelphia	5	4	0	.556	224	213	3-1-0		3-4-0		1-1-0		
5-0	0-2-0	1-2-0	N.Y. Giants	2	7	0	.222	176	255	1-4-0	1-3-0	2-5-0	0-2-0	1-2-0		
6-0	1-1-0	0-4-0	Washington	1	8	0	.111		219	0-4-0	1-4-0	0-6-0	1-2-0	0-3-0		
									uth							
1-0	1-2-0	2-1-0	New Orleans	7	1	0	.875	195	156	4-0-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	2-0-0	1-0-0		
	1-0-0		Carolina	5	3	0	.625	209	204	2-2-0				1-1-0		
3-0	0-2-0	1-2-0	Tampa Bay	2	6	0	.250	230	252	0-3-0	2-3-0	2-5-0	0-1-0	1-2-0		
4-0	2-1-0	0-2-0	Atlanta	1	7	0	.125		250	1-3-0	0-4-0	1-4-0	0-3-0	0-0-0		
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		2-1-0	Green Bay	7	2	0	.778		189		3-1-0		3-1-0			
2-0	0-2-0	1-1-0	Minnesota	6	3	0	.667	234	158	4-0-0	2-3-0	5-2-0	1-1-0	1-2-0		
3-0	0-3-0	1-0-0	Detroit	3	4	1	.438	204	217	2-2-0	1-2-1	2-2-1	1-2-0	0-2-0		
4-0	0-4-0	0-2-0	Chicago	3	5	0	.375	142	144	1-3-0	2-2-0	2-3-0	1-2-0	1-1-0		
			West													
2-0	2-1-0	2-0-0	San Francisco	8	0	0	1.000	235	102	3-0-0	5-0-0	5-0-0	3-0-0	2-0-0		
2-0	2-2-0	1-1-0	Seattle	7	2	0	.778	248	230	3-2-0	4-0-0	4-1-0	3-1-0	2-0-0		
4-0	2-1-0	0-1-0	L.A. Rams	5	3	0	.625	214	174	2-2-0	3-1-0	3-3-0	2-0-0	0-2-0		
4-0	0-2-0	1-2-0	Arizona	3	5	1	.389	195	251	1-3-1	2-2-0	2-4-1	1-1-0	0-2-0		





#### Los Angeles Rams (5-3) at Pittsburgh Steelers (4-4)

AFN-Sports2 10 p.m. Sunday CET 6 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Rams lead 15-8-2.

Last meeting: Steelers beat Rams 12-6, Sept. 27, 2015.

Notes: Steelers have won past three meetings. ... Steelers coach Mike Tomlin is 3-0 against Rams. ... Steelers are plus-11 in the takeaways/giveaways category. ... Rams quarterback Jared Goff passed for 372 yards with two TDs in Week 8 (Rams had bye last week). ... Running back Todd Gurley has six TDs in his past four games. Since 2015, he leads all running backs in scrimmage yards (6,866), rushing yards (4,902) and scrimmage TDs (63). ... Wide receiver Cooper Kupp had seven catches for a career-high 220 yards and a TD in Week 8. ... Steelers quarterback Mason Rudolph completed a career-high 26 passes for 191 yards last week in 26-24 win over Jaguars. ... Wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster became first player in NFL history to record 200 career catches for his



23rd birthday.



#### Minnesota Vikings (6-3) at Dallas Cowboys (5-3)

AFN-Sports 2:20 a.m. Monday CET 10:20 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Cowboys lead 12-11. Last meeting: Cowboys beat Vikings 17-

15. Dec. 1, 2016.

Notes: Cowboys have won past two meetings. ... Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins had three TDs last week in 26-23 loss to Chiefs. .. Running back Dalvin Cook had 116 scrimmage yards (71 rushing, 45 receiving) last week. He has seven games with 100 or more scrimmage yards in 2019, the most in the NFL. ... Wide receiv er Stefon Diggs had eight receptions for 59 vards in last meeting. ... Safety Harrison Smith had a sack and a forced fumble last week. Since 2014, is only player with 15 or more interceptions (16) and 10 or more sacks (12). ... Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott passed for 257 yards and three TDs last week in 37-18 win over Giants. Running back Ezekiel Elliott rushed for 139 vards last week and aims for his fourth in a row with 100 or more rushing yards. Wide receiver Amari Cooper had 80 receiving vards and a TD catch last week

#### ALSO ON AFN

Kansas City Chiefs (6-4) at Tennessee Titans (4-5), AFN-Sports, 7 p.m. Sunday CET: 3 a.m. Monday JKT

■ Check myafn.net for the most up-to-date TV listings.

#### **REST OF THE SCHEDULE**

Arizona (3-5-1) at Tampa Bay (2-6) Buffalo (6-2) at Cleveland (2-6) Baltimore (6-2) at Clicinati (0-8) N.Y. Giants (2-7) at N.Y. Jets (1-7) Atlanta (1-7) at New Orleans (7-1) Miami (1-7) at Indianapolis (5-3) Open: Washington (1-8), News England (8-1), Denver (3-6), Philadelphia (5-4)

# **SPORTS**

# **Quarterback questions**

Some passers proving worth, others proving worthlessness » Page 61





Offensive revolution taking center stage with Alabama-LSU

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 

By RALPH D. RUSSO

ary Danielson has called the last 12 Alabama-LSU regular-season games for CBS Sports, including the Game of the Century in 2011, a No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchup that produced not one touchdown.

Before Danielson does the next Alabama-LSU game Saturday, another 1-2 event in Tuscaloosa, he planned to re-watch that '11 slugfest.

"One, to get into the mood. I don't really need it, but I kind of want to," Danielson said. "And the other is to get the feel of how much football has changed since then.'

College football's most recent offensive revolution started in 2007 and is about to reach the final frontier: The Alabama-LSU rivalry.

The top-ranked Tigers (8-0) and No. 2 Crimson Tide (8-0) are playing a brand of football that bears little resemblance to the 2011 game, which LSU won 9-6 in overtime. This season, Alabama and LSU rank in the top five nationally in scoring, vards per play and — the one the really stands out - passing yards per game. With Joe Burrow pulling the trigger for the Tigers and Tua Tagovailoa leading Nick Saban's Tide, Alabama and LSU average a combined 715 yards passing and 95 points per

The star quarterbacks have combined to throw 57 touchdown passes, and that's with Tagovailoa having missed the last game and a half. The SEC these days looks more like the Big 12.

**SEE FINAL ON PAGE 57** 

Quarterbacks Tua Tagovailoa of Alabama, top, and LSU's Joe Burrow, bottom, are at the forefront of college football's offensive revolution. The top-ranked Tigers and No. 2 Crimson Tide meet Saturday in Tuscaloosa with the teams averaging a combined 715 yards passing and 95 points per game.